

The Horse.

GENTLEMEN'S DRIVING HORSES.

The Boston Commercial Bulletin, in its last issue had an article on this subject which contains information of value to those of our readers who are interested in the breeding of horses. The Boston market is an important one, and the style of horse popular there will meet the requirements of the markets of other large eastern cities. The Bulletin says:

"Although average horses for horse car and draught purposes are possibly 10 or 15 per cent. cheaper than two years ago, yet gentlemen's driving horses have seldom commanded better prices than they do to-day. A strictly desirable animal of this description cannot be bought for less than \$300. The writer's attention was called this week to a beautiful dark bay gelding, 16 hands high, eight years old, and weighing 1,100 pounds, for which \$600 must be realized in order to repay the owner for the animal's cost in the State of Maine. This horse was the old 'Drew' stock, and had trotted in 2:45 to a road wagon in the country where he was raised."

"Another Maine horse not quite six years old, a beautiful bay gelding 16 hands high and weighing a little more than 1,100 pounds, is shown in Boston, after \$600 has been refused for him in the town of Parkman, where he was raised. He is named 'Judge Advocate' after his sire, and with an ability to show a 2:40 gait, has been used as a family horse and driven by ladies. Nothing less than \$700 would be likely to buy a horse of this description."

"Coming down to a little lower level, a handsome black gelding 15 hands high, coming 6 years old, well broken and safe, never driven for speed but with natural 3-minute gait, has sold for \$300. A handsome dark gray mare weighing 950 pounds, coming 6 years old, with a 2:50 record and a chance for improvement in speed as she grows older, is quoted at \$375."

"For gentlemen's driving horses the best color is bay, and next comes chestnut and brown. Some buyers like a dark grey, but they are exceptional. At this season of the year when a horse is shedding his hair, grey hairs are apt to show to a disagreeable extent on the clothing of the driver."

"The best horse the writer found in an investigation of the Boston market the other day, was a handsome bright gelding from Marshall, Mich. He was a trifle under six years old, weighed 975 pounds, and a natural trotter—well balanced, square gaited and level-headed, with an easy elastic step and fine knee action. He was of Hambletonian stock and could trot from 2:30 to 2:35, though he had very little training. Some very good driving horses are now coming to Boston from Michigan and other western States; but the bulk of the best horses come from Maine, and some from Vermont and New Hampshire. Nearly all the horses that come here from Canada are used for draught purposes, and are large heavy animals. The little rugged 'Knucks' which used to be so well known, have almost entirely disappeared; the Canadians having turned their attention to breeding better stock."

"Well matched pairs of driving horses bring better prices of course than single animals. A pair of matched chestnuts, 8 years old, weighing 1,000 pounds each, and able to road 10 or 12 miles an hour with ease, are quoted at \$1,200."

FRAUD ON THE TURF.

In fact it is just as well that the present drift of affairs on the running turf be allowed to pursue its course to the inevitable end, because it is only in that manner that reform can be accomplished. When men like Pierre Lorillard and T. J. Maguire, who have been pillars of the running turf, resolve to retire, and announce the sale of their horses at public auction, it means that matters have indeed sunk to a pretty low ebb, especially when these gentlemen make no concealment of the motives which prompted their action. Mr. Lorillard is free to say that the only reason for his retirement is the fact that as affairs are now administered on the running turf an honest man has but slight chance of success, and he more than intimates that four measures, going to the extent of deliberately cutting down the value of the horse, are frequently resorted to when less radical means will not suffice. The root of all these evils, according to Mr. Lorillard, is the fact that bookmakers, almost without exception, either own or control stables of race horses, and as a rule men utterly without principle, they use the animals which perform under their auspices simply as gambling instruments. That this view of the case is correct no one who has paid even slight attention to the running turf and its principal exponents can doubt, and there must be a complete reversion of the present condition of affairs before anything like honest racing can be hoped for is equally clear. The shameless and scandalous manner in which important events are "jobbed" on the tracks at Brighton Beach, Saratoga, and other places that might be named, is having its effect, and in the course of a few years no man who respects himself or his family will care to figure in what was once rightly called "the sport of kings."—Breeder's Gazette.

What the Gazette says is entirely correct; but they stop half way. The jobs and frauds perpetrated on the track have become so general that very few will believe that every one is not arranged beforehand. Look at the record of the past season. The stories that have been told in the Gazette of the tricks perpetrated by drivers and owners, ought to convince any one that the average driver is as devoid of honesty as a burglar. This has compelled the breeders of different States to organize associations of their own where they may test the speed of their animals, without endangering their lives, as would be the case on the average association track. Let reform begin among the trotters as well as among the runners. Both stand in need of it.

100 doses One Dollar is inseparably connected with Hood's Sarsaparilla, and is true of no other medicine. A bottle of Hood's Sarsaparilla contains 100 doses, and will last a month, while others will average to last not over a week. Use only Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Horse Gossip.

Mr. E. G. Rust, of East Saginaw, notifies us of the death of his fine imported Clydesdale stallion National Policy 1887, recorded in the 24 volume of the Stud Book. He was imported in 1882, and purchased by Mr. Rust, the same year. As a specimen of the improved Clyde he could be regarded as a model, and was very successful in the show ring. He was valued at \$2,000, and his loss is not only a serious one to Mr. Rust, but to the entire Saginaw Valley.

A subscriber at Frontier, Mich., writes: "Please answer through the FARMER what is the breeding of old Magna Charta, owned near Coldwater, Branch County, and oblige." Magna Charta was first recorded by Wallace as sired by Morgan Eagle, son of Sherman Morgan; dam by Grey Eagle (thoroughbred). He was foaled in 1855, and made his best time in 1859 at the State Fair held that year in Detroit. Wallace, in Volume 3 of the Trotting Register says:

"Magna Charta, b. h. foaled 1855; got by Morgan Eagle, son of Morgan Eagle, of Tunbridge, Vt.; dam a chestnut mare that was taken to Michigan by Joe Trowbridge, and sold to L. W. Voorhes, the breeder of Magna Charta. Trowbridge purchased this mare of Caleb Robbins, of Cana, Ind.; he purchased her of J. R. Matthews, of Seymour, Ind., and he of John Smith, of Indianapolis, when she was three years old. The claim that she was by the race horse Grey Eagle, is not sustained in any particular."

The Southern Michigan Trotting Circuit opens at Schoolcraft May 28 to 29, and extends three weeks into June. The other points are Union City, June 9 to 11, and Quincy, June 16 to 18. The purses at Schoolcraft are for the 3:00, 2:30, and the free-for-all classes; the 2:30 class pacers, and for three-year-olds and under, and for four-year-olds and under. Entries close on May 25, and should be sent to D. R. Stuart, Secretary. At Centerville the purses offered are for the 3:00, 2:40, and 2:30 classes trotters, and the 2:30 class pacers. The stakes are as follows: No. 1 for yearlings, half mile heats, two in three; No. 2 for two-year-olds, half mile heats, two in three; No. 3 for three-year-olds, half mile heats, two in three; No. 4 for four-year-olds, half mile heats, two in three; No. 5 for five-year-olds, half mile heats, two in three; No. 6 for six-year-olds, half mile heats, two in three; No. 7 for seven-year-olds, half mile heats, two in three; No. 8 for eight-year-olds, half mile heats, two in three; No. 9 for nine-year-olds, half mile heats, two in three; No. 10 for ten-year-olds, half mile heats, two in three; No. 11 for eleven-year-olds, half mile heats, two in three; No. 12 for twelve-year-olds, half mile heats, two in three; No. 13 for thirteen-year-olds, half mile heats, two in three; No. 14 for fourteen-year-olds, half mile heats, two in three; No. 15 for fifteen-year-olds, half mile heats, two in three; No. 16 for sixteen-year-olds, half mile heats, two in three; No. 17 for seventeen-year-olds, half mile heats, two in three; No. 18 for eighteen-year-olds, half mile heats, two in three; No. 19 for nineteen-year-olds, half mile heats, two in three; No. 20 for twenty-year-olds, half mile heats, two in three; No. 21 for twenty-one-year-olds, half mile heats, two in three; No. 22 for twenty-two-year-olds, half mile heats, two in three; No. 23 for twenty-three-year-olds, half mile heats, two in three; No. 24 for twenty-four-year-olds, half mile heats, two in three; No. 25 for twenty-five-year-olds, half mile heats, two in three; No. 26 for twenty-six-year-olds, half mile heats, two in three; No. 27 for twenty-seven-year-olds, half mile heats, two in three; No. 28 for twenty-eight-year-olds, half mile heats, two in three; No. 29 for twenty-nine-year-olds, half mile heats, two in three; No. 30 for thirty-year-olds, half mile heats, two in three; No. 31 for thirty-one-year-olds, half mile heats, two in three; No. 32 for thirty-two-year-olds, half mile heats, two in three; No. 33 for thirty-three-year-olds, half mile heats, two in three; 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No. 448 for four hundred and forty-eight-year-olds

Horticultural.

SCALE FOR TESTING ORANGES.

Our attention has been called to an article under the above head, from Dudley W. Adams, of Tanagerine, Fla., published in the *Florida Agriculturist* of April 29, 1885, in reply to a previous article by the President of the Florida Horticultural Society.

In the article in question Mr. A. hits both right and left with great freedom; speaking in highly complimentary terms of certain of the judges of citrus fruits, at the same time bestowing upon them and their scale of points certain decidedly "left-handed" compliments, which evince the fact that he but imperfectly understood the facts in the case.

It is presumed that few persons, experienced in the judging of fruits, are unaware of the extreme difficulty of so adapting a scale of points, as to, under all circumstances, secure satisfactory justice in the rendering of awards on fruits. Of the existence and nature of such difficulty, the judges were fully aware; but, in the discharge of the duties imposed upon them, several embarrassing circumstances intervened.

The framers of the list of premiums seem not to have known or, otherwise, to have disregarded the fact that the orange crop of Florida ripens a full month, at least, prior to that of California; and therefore could not be placed on exhibition at the same time; notwithstanding which, they were made to compete with each other for the same premiums. For this reason, fully a month necessarily intervened between the examinations of the two by the judges, leaving them no alternative but to bring each separate exhibit to the test of a scale of points, recording the result, to be compared with the result of an application of the same scale to the competing exhibit, when placed upon the tables—the largest total receiving the award.

When the judges assigned to this task were so notified, they strongly objected to undertaking it; insisting that experts in the growing and handling of citrus fruits should be assigned to the work; but, for reasons that need not here be given, this proved, at the time, impracticable.

On entering upon the work they obtained a copy of the scale of points used in Florida; which was to be in some respects open to objection, and failing to obtain the scale adopted by California growers, the judges consented to use the Florida scale, upon exhibits competing only within that State, framing a modified scale for use upon those competing at large.

On reading Mr. A's article, one of the judges addressed him a courteous private letter explaining the matter, and received an insulting reply.

The judges were, of course, aware that important commercial interests were at issue in the contest; and noting that the Florida scales gave to thinness of skin, abundance of pulp, and freedom from seeds, each severally, the same weight that was allowed to size, beauty of appearance and flavor, they feared that injustice might be done, in its application to fruits grown in the widely different climate and soils of California, or other competing localities. Under these circumstances, we feel that before condemning the action of the judges in the case, both Mr. Adams and President Elliot should point out a better way, or convict them of maladministration in the premises, or otherwise hold their peace. T. T. LYON.

Ch'm. Com. on Citrus Exhibits, N. O. Exposition.

EXPERIENCE WITH THE HELIOTROPE.

"I do not know what is the matter with that heliotrope. It means to die, and I cannot do anything with it. May be it will do something for you, as everything does."

The speaker was a flower-loving acquaintance with whom I often exchanged plants and cuttings; and she pointed as she spoke, to a seemingly dry twig of heliotrope, about four inches high, with but a single pining, sickly leaf, that seemed to have not life enough to part from its withered stem. It did look hopeless enough to dream of flowers from such a plant; but I took it home with a feeling of pitying curiosity; wondering if it would die on my hands, or if I could bring it back to life and vigor. It was wholly an experiment with me, for it was my first heliotrope, though, as every one must, I had had a loving pleasure in their beauty and fragrance.

About two years afterwards, the same acquaintance was with me among my own flowers indoors and out; and she paused in admiration before a magnificent heliotrope that I had trained like a morning glory against the wall of the house and which held its fragrant purple bloom high above my reach when standing on tiptoe. Its leaves were rich and glossy, where they could be seen, but the blossoms grew richly upon the whole plant, as if ambitious of concealing the foliage. She seemed astonished at its thrifty growth, and asked with great earnestness, "Where did you get that heliotrope? And I want a slip from it." Great was her astonishment when I answered her question by asking if she remembered the bit of half dead heliotrope she gave me a couple of years ago, and told her that it was the same plant.

"Well, what did you do to it?" was the next question. And I answered it in the simplest way by stating the truth: "I let it grow." She looked puzzled, but begged a slip from it, though she had two same variety growing at home, in the dwarfed and half-starved condition to which the fragrant plant is so often condemned by ill-usage and neglect.

And I have been asked the same questions over and over again by many different individuals: "What ails my heliotrope? They do not blossom and do not look like yours; what do you do to them?" To all such questions I can only reply, "I let them grow." Sometimes complaint is followed by the statement,

"I water them twice a week;" then I supplement my reply by saying that I often water mine more times than that in a day.

Perhaps it may aid some unsuccessful grower of this flower if I tell the process by which the sickly plant became so changed: I took it from the parched garden bed where it was dying by slow degrees, exposed to the scorching wind and burning sun, without shade or moisture, and covered with dust from the road; I potted it in rich soil, made from well rotted leaves and garden loam, with a drainage of broken charcoal covered with a good bed of woods moss; and placing the pot in a saucer of water, so that the roots should be constantly moist, I gave it but little sunshine until at every point where leaves ought to be, living green buds were starting; giving promise not only of fresh foliage, but of growing shoots as well. Then it was placed in a sunny window and allowed to grow. And it did grow, as a half-starved child might grow when given an abundance of healthful food.

The heliotrope is a sun loving flower, and if you want a wealth of bloom the plant must have plenty of earth, water, and all the sun our little skies will bestow. But you may secure rapid growth of plant without flowers even in partial shade. As winter approached, my window I found was too narrow for my wishes, the plants were crowded excessively. The smaller ones were placed nearest the sash, and a shelf full of those of larger growth placed behind them, and still behind these was a stand crowded full, so that over sixty plants of various kinds, some of them large, got all their light and sunshine from one narrow window. Fortunately it was a south window, and the sun wooed the flowers so persistently that in some way, each plant would reach out a spray for his caress, till it touched the glass, and the window was a tangled wilderness of bloom from top to bottom. The heliotrope, owing to my ignorance of its nature, stood farthest back of all, and consequently had to make the most growth before it could reach the sun; and it went bravely to work, stretching upward day by day, reaching out its green sprays toward the light, thrusting some through the mass of foliage in front of it, till they too, touched the glass, and laughed in purple bloom at their hard won triumph. But far the most of the sprays reached upward till the top of the sash was gained, and the upper half of the window, when seen from without, was glorious in royal purple, and with the gold of the Lantana that had seemed to be growing in friendly strife with it.

I do not give this method of raising a heliotrope as a model one, but to show that the plant, even in the shade, if given an abundance of water, will make a marvelous growth, but it must have the full benefit of the sun if you wish for flowers. And if I wished to raise a large plant for future bloom, I would treat it much in the same way, except the crowding.

I would give it little or no direct sunshine, but earth and water in abundance, and let it grow rank and tall, occasionally pinching off a few tips to force side shoots, as the flowers only come on the tips of growing sprays and of course the more shoots the more flowers. I would by degrees, after a winter of such growth, give it in spring, the sun and air, and frequent drenchings of tepid water. Very likely the leaves may fall when first taken out of doors, but nature will soon renew them. Such a plant needs the support of a strong trellis six or eight feet high, and three or four feet broad, on which to fasten the sprays and enable them to bear the weight of the clusters of bloom. They should be neatly fastened with strips of new cotton cloth a half inch wide, loose enough not to hinder circling. Such a plant as I am describing cannot be grown in a quart pot, with a few spoonfuls of water two or three times in a week. There must be room for the spreading rootlets, and earth enough to nourish them. I find the large wooden tubs or pots better even than large earthen pots for this purpose, and there is a real satisfaction in putting them to a good use after they have held the poisonous weed. They hold the moisture better than the earthen pots—do not get so hot in the sun, and in their decay nourish the plant, and the largest of them are none too large. Perhaps the scent of tobacco that "hangs round them still" helps to keep away the insects so fatal to plants; at least a dose of tobacco tea poured around the roots of the plants kills the insects that feed upon the tender foliage, without injuring the plant. A frequent watering with soot tea is very beneficial to the heliotrope, pouring it about the roots without touching the foliage. It gives vigor to the whole plant and deeper tints to flowers and leaves.

I have found great pleasure in bedding out heliotropes early in the spring, filling a large bed with slips as soon as the ground is warm enough. I place them about eighteen inches apart, leaving only the tips above the ground, pressing the soil closely around it, placing a tumbler or even a burdock leaf above them for a few days, and keeping the earth around them constantly wet. In a week or ten days, they will show growth, and may be left uncovered, but must have plenty of water. In a few weeks they will shade the ground, and standing high above it, will rival the verbenas in wealth of bloom. They will even blossom later than that hardy plant. And after repeated frosts and perhaps a week of snow, the upper part of the plant may be sere and dead, while the lower portion is still vigorous, fresh and green. I find this a good time to lift and pot them for future use, much better than when in a state of growth.

The heliotrope is a very sensitive plant and difficult to remove; indeed it is almost if not quite impossible to lift and remove a large growing plant in summer. But as late as November in a pleasant autumn, I have lifted them successfully, even very large. I have the pail ready, partly filled with good earth, the rest to be used heaped beside it. I then soak the ground well about the roots of

the plant to be lifted, and with sharp scissors remove all decaying branches some inches below the point of decay, trim off straggling sprigs, leaving a neat, compact bush. With a sharp spade I cut a circle all around the plant six or eight inches deep, and with the spade lift the circle of earth and place it carefully in the pail and fill with water well and keep in a cool room without sun till new foliage buds appear. Such plants may be kept in a sunny chamber without fire, even in a bitter cold winter, will make rapid growth, and you may bring them down in May covered with buds and blossoms. They will bear the cold better if kept moist; and my protection has been to give them more cold water than usual, if the night grew colder. I have had better success with heliotrope, begonia and geranium kept in this way than in a cellar, even if the cellar were several degrees warmer.

I was tantalized some years ago in reading one of J. C. Hare's delightful books, by his incidental allusion to a hedge of heliotrope that grew at his childhood's home—one of the historic homes of "Merry England." He described it as growing thick and close, and as tall as a man on horseback! Think of it! What a world of beauty and of fragrance it must offer to its possessor; it would be worth going miles to see!

If we have not England's moist climate to give us her evergreen ivy, her Christmas roses, and such a hedge, we may find that a little pleasant pains taking with the heliotrope would give us a delightful surprise as the result. We might produce even in our little climate a hedge of heliotrope each summer higher than our heads, to hide a bare and unsightly wall with its purple screen. By keeping our old plants that have been bedded from summer to summer in our spare rooms, this might be easily done. Of course where a large family crowds every nook and corner of the house, this would not be possible, but if there is a spare room up stairs where the temperature does not fall below the freezing point, such plants may be kept all winter without fire, and come down in the spring better fitted to bear the exposure of bedding out, than if kept where there is great change of temperature from day to night. And you get flowers at once from them, making bright the garden beds for weeks while we are waiting the slow growth of annuals. C. R. C.

Burning Strawberry Beds.

Professor E. M. Shelton tells *The Industralist* that during a visit to Michigan last summer he was impressed with "a system of strawberry culture in vogue among these careful cultivators" by which this fruit is produced at a profit even when sold for four cents a quart.

"The plants are grown in hills about three feet apart each way. Late in the fall the ground is thoroughly mulched with straw or some similar material, and until the fruit is harvested during the June and July following, no further care is bestowed upon the plants. But soon after the picking season is ended, when the old mulch is in a proper condition as to dryness and inflammability, the mulch is fired and the whole 'patch' burned over; the operation of burning being assisted by men who with forks stir the old mulch until it is consumed. This burning accomplishes a double purpose: it destroys the annual growth of runners and all weeds and feeble plants; and it burns off the entire leafy growth of the plants, leaving, however, the 'crown' or body of the plant uninjured. After this burning, the plants remain in dormant or 'resting' condition for some weeks and until stimulated by the late summer rains. All insist upon the need of the rest, the Sabbath of the strawberry; and where the plants have not been mulched, the scythe is used to remove the foliage, so that the dormant period may be insured to the plants. When the late summer and early fall rains have set in, the strawberry makes an astonishing growth, which is aided by the thorough use of cultivator and hoe until the time for mulching has arrived. By this means the ordinary vicissitudes of the season are measurably overcome, so that failures are nearly or quite unknown."

Catalogues Received.

GREGORY'S DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE OF SEEDS.—For thirty years James J. H. Gregory of Marblehead, Mass., has been distributing his seeds all over the United States until his name has become a household word in the house of every farmer, and his seeds have established for themselves an international reputation. The value of a crop of any kind is always determined by the value of the seeds that are sown. Gregory's seeds never fail, therefore the thirty years of successful business. Look up his advertisement in our columns of this week.

THE NEW GUIDE TO ROSE CULTURE, published by the Dingee & Conard Co., rose growers, West Grove, Pa., (see advertisement) is upon our table, and we take pleasure in recommending it as one of the handsomest and best catalogues of the season. This company makes a specialty of growing and distributing roses, and offers nearly 500 varieties, including all the latest novelties and finest standard sorts. They also offer choice hardy shrubbery, climbing vines, fine seeds, &c. They send by mail or express, as desired, and are well known as amongst the most reliable and trustworthy establishments in this country, and all purchases made from them are sure to be satisfactory.

BURPEE'S FARM ANNUAL.—We have received from W. Atlee Burpee & Co., the well known seedsmen of Philadelphia, a copy of Burpee's Farm Annual for 1886. Unlike any other catalogue published, this book of 128 pages, in addition to seeds, bulbs and plants, fully describes and illustrates the leading breeds of swine, sheep, Scotch Collie dogs and fancy poultry. It contains much valuable information, two beautiful colored plates, and hundreds of illustrations of all varieties of vegetables and flowers, including novelties of striking merit. Those of our readers who are interested in seeds or thoroughbred stock, can obtain Burpee's Farm Annual free, by addressing the publishers at Philadelphia, Pa. W. Atlee Burpee & Co. enjoy a wide reputation for the fine quality of the seeds grown and sold by them.

CATALOGUE OF SEEDS, Hiram Sibley & Co., Rochester, N. Y., and Chicago, Ill. This is a

handsome catalogue, giving prices of all farm, garden and flower seeds, and implements for culture. The firm of Sibley & Co. is too well known to need a recommendation for quality of goods or fairness of dealing.

BUISSE'S GARDEN SEEDS, Philadelphia, Pa.—This catalogue comprises a very full list of garden seeds of which a specialty is made, the immense stock being grown from selected seeds and receiving the proprietor's personal inspection. A great deal of useful information to the market gardener and amateur is included in this handsome pamphlet. Special premiums are offered for crops grown from their seeds.

LARGO'S LIVE SEEDS; F. N. Lang, Baraboo, Wis.—A neat and attractive catalogue, which includes flower, vegetable, field and tree seeds, plants and bulbs, and certain of our small fruits grown with special reference to the Northern trade and carefully tested.

DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE OF FRUITS; Ellwanger & Barry, Mt. Hope Nurseries, Rochester, N. Y.—This is a valuable publication to the horticulturist. The catalogue of native grapes is very complete, numbering over fifty varieties. Russian apples, the sorts which have been tested and found suited to our climate, are included. The character of this firm for accuracy, promptness and reliability is too well known to need mention here, or recommendation to our constant readers.

SEEDS AND TOOLS FOR MARKET GARDENERS; J. C. Vaughn, 42 La Salle Street, Chicago.—A neat catalogue, which includes the essential requisites of the gardener's profession. The new and most desirable seeds are in stock.

DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE OF SEEDS; Alfred Bridgeham, 37 E. 19th St., New York City.—This is a complete, profusely illustrated and clearly printed pamphlet, the floral department being especially voluminous, including both the old favorites and the new aspirants for favor.

MAULE'S SEEDS; William Henry Maule, Philadelphia, Pa.—A compact, clearly printed catalogue, copiously illustrated, which describes the good qualities of the leading varieties of farm, garden and flower seeds. The four-leaved clover on its cover is the token of the "good luck" people have who buy Maule's seeds.

SPRING CATALOGUE, R. H. Allen & Co., 159 and 191 Water Street, New York. The handsomely lithographed covers of this pamphlet of nearly ninety pages are an index of the contents, which catalogue farm, garden and field seeds, roots, plants and garden requisites. It is clearly printed and well illustrated.

FORD'S SOUND SEEDS; Frank Ford & Sons, Ravenna, Ohio.—Devotes especial attention to small fruits, grapes, trees, nursery stock, &c.

CATALOGUE OF GRAPE VINES AND SMALL FRUITS; Joe Horner & Son, Merchantsville, N. J.—Describes the new grapes which have received the approval of horticulturists, giving full information as to habits, distinctive characteristics, etc. The colored plates are fine.

SEED CATALOGUE; Cole & Bros., Pella, Iowa. Neatly printed, very complete, and issued by the oldest seed house in the State.

S. L. ALLEN & Co., manufacturers of the "Planet Jr." drill, 127 and 129 Catherine Street, Philadelphia, send us a very neat pamphlet descriptive of this garden tool, which is becoming almost a necessity to gardeners and seedsmen.

ROCK'S FLORAL GUIDE FOR 1886; Jas. Vick, Rochester, N. Y.—This well known publication comes annually, as welcome as "the flowers that bloom in the spring." Everybody knows it; everybody wants it, especially the growers and lovers of flowers, who find it as essential as the flowers whose beauty it advertises.

Horticultural Notes.

It is said that burning sawdust on the windward side of certain of the Florida orange groves preserved them from destruction by frost.

The Ontario fruit growers in annual session, decided that there was but one practical remedy for black knot in cherry and plum trees, viz., cutting out.

MR. GRANVILLE COWING, of Muncie, Ind., says the fruit of the blackberry should be kept in as dense shade as possible from the time of picking till marketing.

THE NATIONAL STOCKMAN says: A small bed of lettuce may soon be sown on the south side of some convenient building or fence, where it may be protected from the north winds. Early peas and early onion sets should be planted the first of March if the weather will justify, and the hot-beds may be made at any time now. The garden requires the first attention of the farmer, and unless it is heavily fertilized and made rich it is an expensive luxury. The manure should be heaped on the garden before the frost comes out of the ground, as hauling over the ground in the spring when wet greatly injures it.

At the meeting of Iowa horticulturists held at Des Moines in January, some important business was transacted, including the preparing a list of seedling fruits, and a long list of rules governing the same. Several thousand dollars will be offered in sweepstakes at the end of each period of five years on varieties taking successive premiums; while hundreds of dollars are offered annually for seedlings of the different fruits on condition that they have certain desirable characteristics, described in the rules spoken of above. It is hoped these premiums will induce increased activity in the line of seedling production, and be the means of obtaining more reliable kinds, especially for the colder and more unfavorable parts of the State.

T. P. WAKEFIELD, of Ottumwa, Mo., in the *Rural World*, advises to go slow in tarring trees to keep off borers and rabbits. He used tarred paper on 100 trees, even putting other paper between it and the trees in April. About the last of June he saw that there was danger in it, and with all hands went to work to take it off, and found it a great job. The trees turned black as far as the paper extended and became rough in the bark. None died, but all are somewhat injured. Judge S. Miller recommends soap thinned with lye, and a trifling of carbolic acid, as the best wash; applied about 20th of April to 10th of June, and again a month later.

MR. CONANT, of Canada, said at a recent Institute, that after his orchard had been ten years he charged it with what he had paid for trees, setting out, all care and interest on money invested, and it had paid for itself in the ten years. In 1885 he had received \$1,000 clear from his orchard of 30 acres, and only half his orchard is yet bearing, the rest being Splas and late bearers; he had received in 1884 a bad crop, \$800. With ordinary good fortune

this year he will receive \$1,500. An orchard recently handled should yield \$50 per acre a year. Others present received a larger return some up to \$75 per acre.

We believe Col. Colman, Commissioner of Agriculture, did a good thing when he put a damper on the "silk business" by reducing the salary of the President of the Women's Silk Culture Association at Philadelphia from \$100 per month to the nominal sum of \$1.

ROSE TERRY COOKS says in the *Gardener's Monthly*: "Last year I bought some strong, thrifty, young peach trees and set them out properly, for though I am an amateur I know enough for that. They flourished, but in midsummer the leaves crinkled up and had unaccountable 'curl' all over. I had the ground about each tree well mulched with wood ashes slightly forked in. The effect was surprising; in a very short time the leaves straightened out, grew fresh and strong, and never had another bit of curl all summer. I find wood ashes very good for currants, and my raspberries grow enormously under the application of wood ashes every fall and spring."

PROF. BUDD, of the Iowa Agricultural College, says it is always best to plant a low stemmed tree, because if the stems are high the sun is very liable to scald and burn the tree on the south side. On all trees it is best to have one straight stem and the other starting out from this. Always dig the holes in advance, select a cloudy day for planting, and put your trees in rapidly. Dig the holes four inches deeper than those from the nursery. Spread the roots out and press the earth down around the roots very firmly, leaving the ground disking around the tree so that it will catch water when it rains. It is always best to lean the tree toward the south at a strong angle. This may not look new so well as to set them upright, but we must pay more attention to profit to ourselves and good health for the tree in this matter. By leaning the tree to the south in this manner sun-scalding is prevented to a great extent, for the top being partly between the sun and the trunk shades and protects it from the heat; as the tops and roots are both strongest on the north side they will gradually pull the tree back into an upright position.

ARNOLD DUFFET reports that he pacified a swarm of bees, very cross and restless, and which refused to be coaxed into a hive prepared for their reception, by giving them his frames of unsealed brood taken from a strong colony. The hive was already supplied with clean empty comb.

MR. ISAAC HUTCHINS, of Wellington, at a meeting of the Western Maine Bee-keepers' Association, summed up the principal points in handling bees as follows: 1st. Never attempt to strike down a bee if he attacks you in the apiary. 2d. Never blow smoke into the entrance of a hive before opening it. 3d. Never open a hive on a cold or stormy day, unless it is absolutely necessary, then close it as soon as your object is accomplished. 4th. Never excite the bees with smoke or any other means to cause them to fill with honey before or while handling them. 5th. Never jar the frames or hive, or make any quick motion in the apiary. 6th. Never open a hive and expose it to robbers. 7th. Never crush bees in handling. The fourth proposition of Mr. Hutchins' called out a lively discussion, as it is believed by most apiarists that the use of smoke to alarm the bees and induce them to fill their sacks with honey is the principal object of the use of smoke. Most of the members present expressed an opinion favoring the use of smoke in the apiary and that it was not injurious to the bees.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

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JAMES J. H. GREGORY, MARLBOROUGH, MASS.

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MICHIGAN FARMER

STATE JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE.

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The Michigan Farmer

STATE JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE.

DETROIT, TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 1886.

This Paper is entered at the Detroit Post-office as second class matter.

WHEAT.

The receipts of wheat in this market the past week amounted to 54,078 bu., against 83,697 bu., the previous week and 68,333 bu. for corresponding week in 1885. Shipments for the week were 41,945 bu. against 67,838 the previous week, and 11,709 bu. the corresponding week in 1885. The stocks of wheat now held in this city amount to 2,397,407 bu., against 2,308,621 last week and 1,030,958 bu. at the corresponding date in 1885. The visible supply of this grain on February 20 was 52,841,339 bu., against 53,565,170 the previous week, and 6,055,552 bu. at corresponding date in 1885. This shows a decrease from the amount reported the previous week of 23,331 bu. The export clearances for Europe for the week ending February 20 were 581,339 bu., against 269,873 the previous week, and for the last eight weeks they were 2,934,110 bu. against 7,552,117 for the corresponding eight weeks in 1885.

The past week has been characterized by more activity than the previous one, but values were weak and at the close showed a decline in both spot and futures as compared with prices at the opening of the week. There was really no occasion for the decline in the outlook; but probably the manipulators at Chicago and other points thought it about time to have the markets drop a few points so as to shake out weak holders, get a better grip of the market, and be ready for an advance in a few days. Yesterday this market was stronger for spot, finally closing with a slight advance; futures, however, were weaker, and at the close were a few points lower on all deals as compared with Saturday's figures. The speculative demand is very light, while spot is improving. A dispatch announces a further decrease in the "visible supply" of 622,028 bu., as compared with figures given above. The Chicago market opened steady but weakened before the close. No. 2 spring closed at 79¢@80¢; No. 3 spring, 70¢@72¢. New York was firmer for spot, but futures were slightly lower. Toledo was quiet, with prices about the same as on Saturday. Liverpool steady but demand light. The following table exhibits the daily closing prices of spot wheat from Feb. 1st to March 1st:

	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4
Feb. 1	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2	74 1/2
" 2	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2	74 1/2
" 3	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2	74 1/2
" 4	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2	74 1/2
" 5	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2	74 1/2
" 6	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2	74 1/2
" 7	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2	74 1/2
" 8	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2	74 1/2
" 9	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2	74 1/2
" 10	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2	74 1/2
" 11	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2	74 1/2
" 12	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2	74 1/2
" 13	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2	74 1/2
" 14	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2	74 1/2
" 15	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2	74 1/2
" 16	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2	74 1/2
" 17	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2	74 1/2
" 18	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2	74 1/2
" 19	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2	74 1/2
" 20	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2	74 1/2
" 21	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2	74 1/2
" 22	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2	74 1/2
" 23	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2	74 1/2
" 24	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2	74 1/2
" 25	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2	74 1/2
" 26	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2	74 1/2
" 27	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2	74 1/2
" 28	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2	74 1/2
" 29	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2	74 1/2
" 30	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2	74 1/2
" 31	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2	74 1/2

The following statement gives the closing figures on No. 1 futures each day of the past week for the various deals:

	March	April	May
Tuesday	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2
Wednesday	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2
Thursday	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2
Friday	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2
Saturday	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2
Sunday	80 1/2	78 1/2	76 1/2

For No. 2 red the closing prices on the various deals each day of the past week were as follows:

	March	April	May
Tuesday	79 1/2	77 1/2	75 1/2
Wednesday	79 1/2	77 1/2	75 1/2
Thursday	79 1/2	77 1/2	75 1/2
Friday	79 1/2	77 1/2	75 1/2
Saturday	79 1/2	77 1/2	75 1/2
Sunday	79 1/2	77 1/2	75 1/2

There are no special features of interest to note in the market. There is an improvement in the export demand, but the shipments do not average over half of the amount at the corresponding date in 1885. At the close of the week the export demand had dropped off, and this was used by the "bears" to depress values. It was also reported at Chicago that receipts the coming week would be largely increased.

The weather of the past week has been very unfavorable for the winter wheat. A thaw that took all the frost out of the ground and cleared the fields of snow, was succeeded by a blizzard that froze the earth solid and covered many portions of the wheat fields with ice. The dry harsh winds, indicative of the approach of March, are anything but beneficial to the plant, and the frequent and serious changes that follow each other are very unfavorable omens for the outcome of the crop.

The foreign markets are dull, and in some instances lower. The supply of wheat in the United Kingdom for the week ending Feb. 20, as reported by Berbohm, was estimated as 160,000 bushels below the estimated weekly consumption.

Quotations at Liverpool yesterday for American wheat were as follows: central: Winter, 6s. 11d. @7s. 1d.; spring, 6s. 11d. @7s. 1d.; California, 6s. 6d. @6s. 8d.; club, 6s. 9d. @6s. 11d., market closing dull.

CORN AND OATS.

CORN.

The receipts of corn in this market the past week amounted to 114,334 bu., against 136,227 bu. the previous week, and 33,153 bu. for the corresponding week in 1885. Shipments were 96,004 bu., against 129,134 bu. the previous week, and 95,101 bu. for the same week last year. The visible supply in the country on February 20 amounted to 8,867,575 bu., against 8,177,003 bu. the previous week, and 5,486,411 bu. at the same date last year. The visible supply shows an increase during the week of 690,575 bu. The exports for Europe the past week were 1,755,397 bu., against 1,174,623 bu. the previous week, and for the last eight weeks 11,373,473 bu., against 13,108,666 bu. for the corresponding period in 1885. The stocks now held in this city amount to 145,587 bu., against 149,915 bu. last week and 73,462 bu. at the corresponding date in 1885. Corn has been weaker since our last report, and prices are slightly lower. For No. 2, 34¢ is the ruling price, for new mixed 37¢, and for new high mixed 38¢ per bu. No. 2 for March delivery sold at 34¢. The Chicago market has also declined under liberal receipts and reports of lower values prevailing in the English markets. Quotations there are as follows: No. 2 spot, 36¢@37¢; March delivery, 36¢; May, 40¢@41¢. The Toledo market is quiet, firm, with spot No. 2 at 36¢, and May delivery at 41¢. The Liverpool market is quiet, with prices slightly lower than a week ago. Quotations there are 4s. 7 1/2 d. per cental for old mixed and 4s. 2 1/2 d. for new do. In futures, new mixed for March and April deliveries is quoted at 4s. 1 1/2 d.

OATS.

The receipts of oats in this market the past week were 23,275 bu., against 25,333 bu. the previous week, and 10,331 bu. for the corresponding week in 1885. Shipments were 8,555 bu. against 5,843 bu. the previous week, and 5,351 bu. for the same week last year. The visible supply of this grain on February 20 was 1,997,150 bu., against 1,831,893 bu. the previous week, and 2,317,935 bu. February 21, 1885. The exports for Europe the past week were 450 bu. and for the last eight weeks were 399,845 bu., against 347,438 bu. for the corresponding weeks in 1885. The visible supply shows an increase of 165,788 bu. during the week. Stocks held in store here amount to 53,765 bu., against 30,987 bu. the previous week, and 37,274 bu. at the corresponding date in 1885. Oats are quiet, and show a little weakness, as would naturally be expected from the weakness of other grains; but prices do not show any decline. No. 2 white being quoted at 35¢, light mixed at 35¢, and No. 2 mixed at 34¢. There is no speculative demand, and values depend entirely upon the consumptive demand. It must be remembered that the crop of oats grown the past season was the largest ever raised in the United States, and it was expected that very low prices would rule. No. 2 white, however, are only 3¢ per bu. lower than No. 2 corn, and rule firmer. At Chicago the week closed with oats dull and slightly lower than a week ago. Last sales showed the market to be improving. Quotations there are 24¢ per bu. for spot No. 2, 25¢ for March delivery, and 34¢@35¢ for May. The shipping demand had fallen off in that market. At Toledo the market is dull and a shade lower than a week ago. Quotations there are 33¢ per bu. for spot No. 2 mixed, and 35¢ for May delivery. The New York market is quiet, with light export demand. Quotations there are as follows: No. 3 mixed, 33¢; No. 2 do., 34¢; No. 3 white, 34¢; mixed western, 37¢@38¢; white western, 39¢@40¢.

DAIRY PRODUCTS.

BUTTER.

The market has improved a little on choice dairy stock, with fair good stock at 12¢@15¢. Creamery stock is quotable at 25¢@30¢, with fair demand. A great deal of the creamery stock is said to be used by oleomargarine manufacturers to mix with their grease. As a matter of interest to butter-makers throughout the State, we copy an advertisement which appeared in the *Tribune* of this city on Sunday last:

OLEOMARGARINE-FOR SALE. FOR CAP-italists only, etc., a part interest in a complete plant for the production of one to three tons daily of butterine and oleomargarine. Goods pure, better, cleaner and more wholesome than ordinary table butter. Michigan consumers more than any other State. Home markets for all products, and profits worth investigating. Address "A," this office.

It is worthy of note that the advertiser says "Michigan consumes more than any other State," and that the plant is capable of producing one to three tons of butterine and oleomargarine daily! Think of 18 tons of the stuff being turned out weekly by one factory! No wonder butter is cheap and difficult of sale. At Chicago choice butter has advanced slightly, but other grades are dull and unchanged. Fancy creameries ranged at 31¢@32¢; choice brands, 28¢@30¢, outside for the best Iowa and Wisconsin grades; fresh makes lacking flavor, 20¢@22¢; common makes, 15¢@18¢; fine dairies, 20¢@23¢ for selections and 13¢@14¢ for good fresh stock. At New York the market has eased off, and it takes a good quality of stock to command 30¢. The great bulk of Western creamery sells at 27¢@30¢, and anything exceeding that range is of exceptional character. New milk State dairy, if perfect, is quotable at 29¢@30¢, but most of it continues to find an irregular market at 28¢ down to 25¢, and even 23¢ is accepted in some cases. Old fine State dairy nominally unchanged. Western dairy and imitation creamery are dull and weak. Quotations in that market yesterday were as follows:

Creamery, fancy,.....	31 1/2	32 1/2
Creamery, choice,.....	30 1/2	31 1/2
Creamery, prime,.....	29 1/2	30 1/2
Creamery, good,.....	28 1/2	29 1/2
Creamery, fair,.....	27 1/2	28 1/2
Creamery, ordinary,.....	26 1/2	27 1/2
Creamery, choice,.....	25 1/2	26 1/2
Creamery, good,.....	24 1/2	25 1/2
Creamery, fair,.....	23 1/2	24 1/2
Creamery, ordinary,.....	22 1/2	23 1/2
Creamery, choice,.....	21 1/2	22 1/2
Creamery, good,.....	20 1/2	21 1/2
Creamery, fair,.....	19 1/2	20 1/2
Creamery, ordinary,.....	18 1/2	19 1/2
Creamery, choice,.....	17 1/2	18 1/2
Creamery, good,.....	16 1/2	17 1/2
Creamery, fair,.....	15 1/2	16 1/2
Creamery, ordinary,.....	14 1/2	15 1/2
Creamery, choice,.....	13 1/2	14 1/2
Creamery, good,.....	12 1/2	13 1/2
Creamery, fair,.....	11 1/2	12 1/2
Creamery, ordinary,.....	10 1/2	11 1/2
Creamery, choice,.....	9 1/2	10 1/2
Creamery, good,.....	8 1/2	9 1/2
Creamery, fair,.....	7 1/2	8 1/2
Creamery, ordinary,.....	6 1/2	7 1/2
Creamery, choice,.....	5 1/2	6 1/2
Creamery, good,.....	4 1/2	5 1/2
Creamery, fair,.....	3 1/2	4 1/2
Creamery, ordinary,.....	2 1/2	3 1/2
Creamery, choice,.....	1 1/2	2 1/2
Creamery, good,.....	1/2	1 1/2
Creamery, fair,.....	0	1/2
Creamery, ordinary,.....	0	0

State half-drink tubs and pails, choice, 24 @25
State half-drink tubs, pails, fair to good 18 @23
State half-drink tubs, pails, ordinary 12 @17
State dairy, extra, good to fine 19 @24
State dairy, extra, good to fine 19 @24
State dairy, extra, good to fine 19 @24
State dairy, extra, good to fine 19 @24

WESTERN STOCK.

Western imitation creamery, choice, 24 @25
Western imitation creamery, choice, 24 @25
Western imitation creamery, choice, 24 @25
Western imitation creamery, choice, 24 @25
Western imitation creamery, choice, 24 @25
Western imitation creamery, choice, 24 @25
Western imitation creamery, choice, 24 @25
Western imitation creamery, choice, 24 @25

The exports of butter from American ports for the week ending Feb. 20 were 221,565 lbs., against 132,565 lbs. the previous week, and 281,464 lbs. two weeks previous. The exports for the corresponding week in 1885 were 218,401 lbs.

CHEESE.

Market steady, with State full cream quoted at 11¢@12¢, New York at 12¢@13¢, Ohio at 11¢@12¢, and skims at 9¢@10¢. The Chicago market is reported quiet, not from lack of orders but because it was too cold to ship. Quotations there are as follows: Young America, 11¢@12¢; flats, two in a box, quoted at 10¢@11¢; cheddar, 10¢@11¢, and hard and common skims dull at 9¢@10¢. The New York market is unchanged, so far as quotations are concerned, but there is a weaker feeling apparent. Prices have declined in the English markets, and this has caused a depressed market on this side of the Atlantic. Quotations in that market yesterday were as follows:

State factory, select specials on limit, 10¢@10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
State factory, fancy, white, 9¢@9 1/2	9 1/2	9 1/2
State factory, prime to choice, 8¢@8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2
State factory, medium, 7¢@7 1/2	7 1/2	7 1/2
State factory, fair, 6¢@6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
State factory, night skims, 5¢@5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
State factory, close skims, 4¢@4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
Ohio flat, fancy, 9¢@9 1/2	9 1/2	9 1/2
Ohio flat, prime to good, 8¢@8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2
Ohio flat, fair to good, 7¢@7 1/2	7 1/2	7 1/2
Pennsylvania skims, 5¢@5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2

The receipts of cheese in the New York market the past week were 16,478 boxes against 18,982 boxes the previous week and 13,420 boxes the corresponding week in 1885. The exports from all American ports for the week ending February 20 foot up 1,712,276 lbs., against 1,916,575 lbs. for the previous week, and 2,311,550 lbs. two weeks ago. The exports for the corresponding week last year were 1,113,189 lbs. Liverpool quotations for American cheese yesterday were 48s. per cwt., a decline of 1s. per cwt. from the price quoted one week ago.

Clover seed advanced during the week to \$3.30 per bu. for prime, after which the market got demoralized, and on Saturday dropped to \$3.00. No. 2 at \$3.00. Futures were also lower, March delivery selling at \$3.65 and April at \$3.50. The Chicago market was lower on Saturday, but values closed higher than the previous week, prime being quoted at \$3.60 for spot. At Toledo prime seed is quoted at \$3.60 for prime, and \$3.65 for April delivery. New York is unchanged, at 9¢@10¢ per lb., with a quiet market.

The eighth annual Farmers' Institute under the auspices of Ingham County Grange was held at Okemos on Wednesday and Thursday of last week. The attendance was good, despite the unpropitious weather, the representative farmers of the surrounding country being out in full force; and the programme, which was published in the *FARMER* of the 16th ult., was fully carried out. Cedar Grange, of Okemos, hospitably entertained all who came, and the occasion was one of social pleasure and enjoyment, as well as of benefit to farmers in the line of their calling.

CORRECTION.—The report of Mr. Scott H. Roraback's address on "Sacking," delivered before the Eaton County Farmers' Institute, and copied into the *FARMER*, was inadvertently credited to the *Journal*, in which it appeared. The *Herald* gave a very complete report of the proceedings of the Institute, and should have credit for its enterprise.

The advertisement of Mr. Hibbard to butter-makers is deserving of attention. He is an old business man in this city, long a member of the grocery firm of Hibbard & Raymond, and we believe him to be perfectly reliable.

Wool is quiet and unchanged, prices at New York, Boston and Philadelphia being quoted just the same as a week ago.

Clinton County Wool-Growers.

At a meeting of the executive board of the Clinton County Wool-Growers' Association, held at St. Johns, February 20, the following business was transacted: It was decided to hold the third annual shearing at the barn of the St. Johns House, in the village of St. Johns, April 23, 1886. It was also decided that there should be a "Dressers' Institute" held in connection with the annual meeting commencing the second Friday in December. The following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, The reduction in the scale of duties on foreign wool by the act of March, 1883, has had the effect to lower the price of wool to such an extent as to seriously cripple the industries of sheep-breeding and wool-growing in the United States, and the sheep-breeders and wool-growers of Clinton Co., Mich., do hereby resolve, That we ask Congress to restore those duties to the same standard as they were before that reduction; and we most earnestly protest against any further reduction, or the adoption of any tariff which will admit materials to manufacturers free, as destined to destroy the industry of wool-growing in our country and take from the pockets of our people the money which they have rightfully earned; and we shall be obliged to send abroad for wool that cannot possibly be grown at home under a lower tariff than the one now in force. Resolved, That our Senators and Representatives in Congress be requested to not only strenuously oppose any further reduction of the present rates of duties, but to use their best efforts to have the duties on wool restored to the rates that were established by the tariff laws of 1867. Resolved, That a copy of this preamble and resolutions be forwarded to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress. R. B. CARUS, President. DECATUR, Grocer, Secretary.

ACROSS THE BORDER.

While on our travels a few days since we strayed across the border and over into Hoosierdom, nor did we forget to visit South Bend. Our visits to this thriving manufacturing city are looked forward to with pleasurable anticipations and could we forget our late hotel experience, there would be no blot on the fair escutcheon of our recent trip. We tried one hotel and not liking it went to another, and then we wished we had remained at the first one; after dinner we grasped our grip sack and wandered our way to another house. This one we found the best of the three which had been favored with our patronage on one day, and during the balance of our time in the city we were made quite comfortable. The wonder is that South Bend, with its great factories, elegant opera house, street railways, water works, electric lights, and other improvements, all manipulated by a thoroughly wide-awake people, should not have a really first class hotel, and we hope the lightning will so strike before long as to bring it about. But fortunately we were not compelled to adopt hotel life entirely while in the city and we turned to the great factories for comfort. These are numerous in South Bend, but this article must deal with one of them only and that the Oliver Chilled Plow Works. There is a solid, wholesome appearance about the great plow works which seems to say,—we have come to stay, and as we are always made welcome on the occasions of our visits we naturally turned our steps in that direction. The tall chimneys spouting volumes of black smoke, the hum of busy machinery, the moving of empty and loaded cars into and out of the works greeted us, while a general air of business about the place betokened stirring times. And we found that these appearances were not deceptive but that really and truly there was a marked improvement in trade. Of course we looked through the works as we have often before done, and on every hand we could note change and improvement. The old familiar patterns of plows which have become so noted and so remarkably popular were to be seen in large numbers, but as an addition to this already large family was a line of steel plows, showing that the Oliver Chilled Plow Works were more than abreast of the times. And these new plows were beauties too and so varied as to size and style that the most exacting could be suited. Their finish and general appearance fully sustained Mr. Oliver as he remarked with pardonable pride, "Now we can please the world." And we think he can, for certainly here was everything in the plow line that could be asked for. A plow has some peculiar attraction for us and as we looked at these steel plows with their mirrored surfaces, closely fitting joints, graceful curves and generally "I mean business" appearance we could not help contrasting the farm life of to-day with that of the old time. We learn that some of the patterns of steel plows are made with special reference to the Michigan trade, for parts of Michigan require steel goods, and where so natural to look for them as to the great factory that has supplied so many plows to our progressive farmers. But other novelties were brought to our attention, and among them some plows made especially for the Mexican trade, and others for the farmers of old Scotland, who have their own peculiar ideas on the plow question.

As usual our visit was interesting and quite in contrast with that of a year ago, when the Oliver Works had just resumed work after the strike and riot which they closed two months. But we never know where to stop when on the subject of plows and it will perhaps be well to call a halt before we weary our readers. As a parting word, when you visit South Bend don't forget to visit the Oliver Chilled Plow Works, and our word for it will be warmly welcomed and amply repaid for your trouble.

The Lapeer County Sheep-Breeders' and Wool-Growers' Club.

Metamora, Mich., Feb. 25, 1886.

The third annual meeting of this Club was held in Metamora, Feb. 19th, 1886, with President McGregor in the chair. The election of officers resulted in the selection of Wm. Blod, President; Geo. Titusworth, Vice-President; F. E. Odell, Secretary; David Fellows, Treasurer; and A. Chapman and James Palmer, Directors. The afternoon session opened with a paper by President Blod upon "The Selection of Stock Rams." A lively discussion followed in which diverse views were presented. D. P. Dewey, of Grand Blanc, then read an interesting paper upon "The Benefits Derived from the Continued use of Thoroughbred Stock Rams." The discussion which followed this paper was beneficial and instructive, while a vein of humor and good feeling ran parallel with practical thoughts. The discussion was participated in by some of our most efficient pioneer farmers. The writers of these worthypapers, were, by unanimous vote of the Club, requested to furnish copies for publication.

The numbers present and the interest manifested give undoubted proof that the sheep breeders and wool growers of Lapeer County are in no wise discouraged at the decrease in price of sheep and wool, and that their will and purpose will be to make still greater efforts in the future to improve the quality of their stock.

F. E. ODELL, Secretary.

The locating committee of the State Agricultural Society met in this city on Wednesday last to discuss the question of the location of the next State Fair. It was finally decided to meet again at Jackson on March 23rd, and to authorize the Secretary to invite proposals for the permanent location of the fair. It was also decided that the grounds offered must include at least 50 acres. Proposals should be addressed to J. C. Sterling, Monroe, until the 21st inst., and after that date to him at the Hibbard House, Jackson, where the committee will meet.

A creamery company was organized at Zeeland, Ottawa County, last week, to build a creamery which shall be capable of turning out two thousand pounds of gold-plated butter per diem.

MR. ISAAC TERRY, who sent in a communication to the *FARMER* on the corn question, wishes us to announce that he has no seed for sale, as quite a number have written him on the subject.

Stock Notes.

MR. C. S. BROOKS, of Brighton, whose sale of stock is advertised for the 10th inst., will meet parties arriving by rail at Milford or Brighton the day before the sale, if notified by postal. Teams will be at these stations on the day of the sale.

MILLS BROTHERS, of Walnut Hill Farm, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County, have purchased from E. W. Coddington, of Cherry Vale Farm, the Holstein-Friesian bull Cherry Vale 4486, and the females 1875, and the Queens of Cherryvale 9440. This gives the Mills Brothers a herd of 11 thoroughbreds and 32 grades.

Poetry.

THE TRAVELLER AT SUNSET.

The shadows grow and deepen round me;
I feel the dew-fall in the air;
The muzzles of the darkness thicket,
I hear the night-bush call to prayer.

The evening wind is sad with farewells,
And loving hands unclasp from mine;
Alone I go to meet the darkness
Across an awful boundary-line.

As from the lighted hearth behind me
I pass with slow, reluctant feet,
What waits me in the land of strangeness?
What face shall smile, what voice shall greet?

What space shall awe, what brightness blind me?
What thunder roll of music stuns?
What vast processions sweep before me
Of shapes unknown beneath the sun?

I shrink from unaccustomed glory,
I dread the myriad-voiced strain;
Give me the forgotten faces,
And let my lost ones speak again.

Be will not chide my mortal yearning:
Who is our brother and our friend,
In whose full life I divide and human,
The heavenly and the earthly blend.

Mine be the joy of soul-communion,
The sense of spiritual strength renewed,
The reverence for the pure and holy,
The dear delight of doing good.

No fitting ear is mine to listen
An endless anthem's rise and fall;
No curious eye is mine to measure
The pearl gate and the Jasper wall.

For love must needs be more than knowledge;
What matter if I never know
Why Aldebaran's star is ruddy,
Or colder Sirius white as snow!

Forgive my human words, O Father:
I go Thy larger truth to prove;
Thy mercy shall transcend my aging;
I seek but love, and Thou art Love!

I go to find my lost and mourned for
Safe in Thy sheltering goodness still,
And all that hope and faith foreshadow
Made perfect in Thy holy will.

—John G. Whittier.

VANITY OF VANITIES.

Bee to the blossom, moth to the flame;
Each to his passion; what's in a name!
Red clover's sweetest, well he knows;
No bee can suck it; lonely it blows.

Deep lies its honey, out of reach, deep;
What use in honey hidden to keep?
Robbed in the autumn, starving for bread;
Who stops to pity a honey-bee dead?

Star-flames are brightest, blazing the skies;
Only a hand's breadth the moth wing flies.
Poiled with a candle, scorched with a breath;
Poor little miller, a tawdry death!

Life is a honey, life is a flame;
Each to his passion; what's in a name!
Swinging and circling, face to the sun,
Brief little planet, how it doth run!

Be-time and moth-time, add the amount;
White heat and honey, who keeps the count?
Gone some fine evening, a spark out—lost!
The world no darker for one star lost!

Bee to the blossom, moth to the flame;
Each to his passion; what's in a name!

Miscellaneous.

ALL RIGHT AT LAST.

One afternoon in August I was sauntering down the main street of our little city, and had just halted before a shop window to look at a picture, when I heard voices behind me that sounded strangely familiar.

I turned round and saw a group of three persons standing near me—a man and a woman and a young girl; evidently a family from the country.

The man was immense. He towered head and shoulders above his wife—by no means a small woman; and large as he was, he seemed brimful of good humor and enjoyment.

Even the discomfort of being dressed up in his Sunday best—a stiff collar against which his neck protested in frequent spasmodic jerks, and cotton gloves in whose roomy depths his fingers were helpless as many wooden clothes-pins—all passed for nothing and less than nothing with this happy giant.

The daughter, a girl of perhaps 16 years of age, was pretty and fresh as a daisy. She had a figure exquisite in its simple, natural grace, which the ugly, ill-fitting garments she wore could not hide or essentially mar, and she looked about her with a sky and conscious air that was altogether charming.

But the mother's face was careworn and anxious, and she seemed more than the others to feel out of place in her surroundings.

They were apparently discussing some plan of going or coming, and I forgot the picture in furtively watching them, and trying to recall where I had seen them before.

"Lucy Jane," the man was saying, "if you are so tired, you and Sis had better go back to the tavern; I'll be along 'fore supper." Then it all flashed upon me.

Two summers ago my brother Jack and I were traveling among the Green Mountains. We had been riding all day through a grandly wild and picturesque country—mountains and solitude everywhere—which we enjoyed to the full, until as night came on hunger and weariness caused us to forget everything else in the desire for food and shelter.

A man came out to meet us with a lantern in his hand—I remembering thinking that he looked like a giant as he emerged from the shadows—but he welcomed us right heartily, and took us in to his wife, who brightened up the fire in the huge fireplace, (for the nights were chilly even in August there among the mountains), and prepared us a supper fit for a king. The little daughter, "Sis" they called her, waited upon us and gave us

friendly glances out of her bashful eyes. We enjoyed a blissful night's rest, and in the morning were entertained more like loved and honored friends than stranger guests. They showed us the family photographs and the prize dictionary "Sis" had won at the spelling match, not forgetting the patchwork and the sampler. They pressed upon us stores of spruce gum and beechnuts, and sent us away with new faith in human nature.

As we drove from their door I said to Jack, with a choking in my throat, "How kind they are! Do you suppose they treat everybody so?"

"Very likely," he answered; "God bless them, anyway. But," he added thoughtfully, "it is to be hoped they will never leave this spot; it would be cruel to have their simple goodness abused."

And now here they were! What had induced them to leave their peaceful home, and by what chance had they strayed away down here?

I wondered whether they would remember me if I should speak to them; that I would so I was determined, only for the moment I was too full of questioning to act.

I waited till the man had left them, and then stepping forward I made myself known to the mother and daughter.

They seemed greatly pleased to renew my acquaintance, and invited me to go with them to their hotel and "have a good talk."

"I am so glad," says Mrs. Mears, "to see somebody here that ain't a total stranger!" So with that feeling we all have more or less towards one whom we know ever so slightly, if met among strangers, they took me at once into their confidence, and treated me like an old friend.

"You see," explained Mrs. Mears, "it was Brother Gideon's notion gettin' us down here, he's lived here a good many years. He was up to our place last summer, and he blowed and bragged so much about the money he was makin' and so on, that Hiram—that's my husband, you know—got real discontented with the tavern stand, and grew worse and worse, till finally nothin' would do but he must tear up and come down to try his luck. I felt like death about it, for I was 'tached to the old place, and besides, considered it an awful risk. We always got a good livin' there at any rate. Then agin, between you'n me," lowering her voice, "I don't take no stock in Brother Gideon. He makes great promises—but will he fulfill 'em?"

"He told Hiram that if he would furnish \$2,000 he'd take him into the butter business 'long with him, and they'd make a sight of money. Said he hadn't a doubt but what we'd be independent in a few years' time. Hiram he's powerful elated over it, but I feel as if some dreadful thing was goin' to happen to us. He's gone and let Brother Gideon have every cent he's worth in the world, and we're goin' to live on nothin'—till we get rich."

She laughed a little hysterically. "I know I'm foolish," she said, "but I can't help it. I told 'em father'n I am too old to pull up and begin life new, and I can't make it seem right. I shan't never feel to home here whether we get rich or not. I wouldn't be city folks anyway."

Involuntarily I looked at Sis. She smiled and threw up her chin with a little defiant air. Her mother's glance followed mine.

"O, Sis would take to it as natural as a duck to the water," she said, in answer to my unspoken thought. "It's only on her account that I try to be reconciled at all. If we do happen to get rich I shall be glad on her account. She'd order have advantages—Sis had."

Soon after I called upon them in their new home. I found them in the basement of a miserable tenement house.

"We're only stopping here for the time bein'—as it were"—explained Mr. Mears apologetically; "jest till we can turn round, you know."

I noticed that he spoke with an effort at indifference, and glanced uneasily at his wife. I looked about the bare and comfortable place, and thought of the quaint, home-like rooms in the old inn. The stench of the beer saloon opposite was not like the fragrance of the piney woods among the mountains, and the singing birds were certainly missing. But with their wonted hospitality they urged me to stay and share their evening meal, and I could not pain them by a refusal.

"Marm's biscuit are test as good here as they was up to the Coffee House" Hiram declared with enthusiasm, as we sat down to the table.

By and by, fortified with numerous cups of strong tea, the old man's spirits rose and his tongue was loosened.

"Why, Lord love ye," he said, with a majestic wave of the hand, "we couldn't hire a thousand-dollar house and furnish it 'propriate and invest in the butter business all to once, could we now, bein' we ain't millionaires yet? You see, Brother Gideon he's took all the money him and I could rake and scrape, and gone off buyin' butter; so we are economizin' a spell till we can git it out of the profits. Lucy Jane she's kinder low spirited, and fearful about it, but I ain't. I tell her nothin' ventur' nothin' have—that's the talk! and Brother Gideon he says this butter business is a big payin' business, and no mistake!"

Being a woman and unacquainted with business in general, and the butter business in particular, I could only say—since I was expected to say something—that I was very glad indeed, and that he was fortunate in having a partner in whom he reposed such confidence.

"Confidence!" he repeated, "of course I've got all the confidence in the world in Brother Gideon—why, we're twin brothers!"

But now what need to linger over this part of our story. Brother Gideon and the butter business proved delusive; the one being a swindler and the other a myth, and Hiram Mears' money—the savings of a lifetime—and his faith in his twin brother, perished and were buried together in one deep grave.

The stifled rooms in the tenement house became their permanent home, and their only means of support such odd jobs as Mr. Mears could obtain; and that was

meagre enough, work that he could do being hard to find; and there were days when he sat idly in the house, or wandered restlessly about the streets.

Mrs. Mears applied to several hotels for a position as cook; but she told me with a flush of wounded pride in her cheek, "I find after doin' the cookin' for a tavern fifteen years, that I don't know how to cook!"

"The first thing they ask me is, 'Do you understand French cookin'?' and I tell 'em that I don't and I don't want to, nuther! That I never set anything afore other folks to eat that I wouldn't eat myself, and I consider them mixed up messes about the same as pizen! I say it's a burnin' shame that folks can't be contented with good wholesome vittles!"

She never reproached her husband, and her efforts to be cheerful when he was present were pitiful. She caught at every straw of hope and made it serve her kindly purpose.

"I tell Hiram," she said on one occasion, "that it was all for the best, our comin' down here, and so on, for now if we ever do get back to the Coffee House, we never shall raise the money to get back to Vermont, say nothin' o' buyin' the tavern stand!"

After a time Mrs. Mears and Sis succeeded in procuring occasional odd jobs of sewing, cooking, and cleaning in some of the wealthy families. Among them was that of a merchant named Gardner. There was a son in the family—Phillip Gardner—who, as chance would have it, met Sis in one of his after-dinner lounging in his mother's room, and having seen her persistently cultivated her acquaintance; taking occasion to call at her humble home, and being hospitably received by the old people he continued to come, and to pay her the most flattering attentions; till the father and mother, in their simplicity, began to look upon the rich and handsome young man as a possible husband for their pretty child.

I was absent from home for several weeks, and when on my return I again visited the Mears family, I was at once struck with the change in their appearance.

The place was as poor as ever, but a vase of expensive hot-house flowers bloomed on the mantel, and the trouble was gone out of every face.

Mr. Mears hastened to tell me the news: "Our Sis is a goin' to be married," he said. "She's a goin' to be married to Mr. Phillip Gardner, the rich young gentleman you've heard speak on. And she's agoin'," he repeated still more impressively, "to ride in her kerridge and keep her servants, and have planners and velvet carpets and—like paintin's! But I tell 'em"—with an air of easy complacency—"that it's only what might be expected. I tell 'em she's good enough and handsome enough. Sis is, to marry the king, by George! if she is my girl!"

He laughed a loud guffaw, and gave his wife a resounding smack, in the exuberance of his feelings.

"And what's more," he added, "he's offered of his own accord—my son-in-law that is to be, has—to do the handsome thing by the old folks." Here he paused, visibly affected, and cleared his throat.

"He's offered," he went on tremulously, "to buy back the Coffee House and set us up agin, and let us pay him at our leisure."

He opened his mouth to say more, but dropped into a seat, and shook his head as if to signify his inability to do anything like justice to such generosity in words.

Meanwhile Sis is entertaining company in the room adjoining. A handsome, fashionably dressed young man sits very near her, looking down into her lovely face with an expression of mingled pique and amusement.

"Do you mean to say you do not love me, little one?" he was asking.

She hesitated, and the hot color swept her cheek.

"I think I shall learn to love you because you are so good to me," she said, gently evasive. "And then you are much handsomer and—richer, than any one I ever knew. I am sure you are very kind to think of me, and I am grateful. But," dropping her voice and hanging her head, "there was a young man up in Vermont that I liked very much, and I know he liked me. He was very good too, and more—more my kind."

Phillip Gardner smiled, amused. "How does he look? Describe him."

She glanced at the elegant man before her. "Oh he is a giant beside of you, Mr. Gardner! He is as big as par, John is, and I used to be so proud of him!"

"Of his size?" She was unconscious of the implied sarcasm.

"Yes; and then he is so handsome, too. Not like you, of course—oh, not at all like you!" Shaking her head very decidedly. "As different as—as a big oak tree is from a—like a lilac bush, you know."

"I wonder whether I am to feel flattered or otherwise," he said.

"He never asked me to marry him," she went on abruptly, ignoring his remark; "but I know he expects—that is—"

"Do you love him—this giant, this oak?"

"Well yes, to be honest, I really believe I do!"

She cried impulsively, and then she clasped her little hands and looked at Mr. Gardner in sudden distress. "Oh, I forgot! It seemed as if we were just talking, you know! I didn't mean to take you feel bad."

He did not speak and she blundered on: "Par and marm said that John had never asked me to marry him, and it was so much better for me to marry you—and I mustn't think about—anybody else, any more. But I like you too well to deceive you, and I made up my mind to tell you just how it was."

"You are very considerate and honest," he said with a feeling akin to reverence. "You are a good little girl. I am half inclined to be honest with you."

"Perhaps you don't want me now?" she said, looking up at him with an air of innocent deprecation.

Her lovely face was very near to him. For all answer he caught her to him and kissed her passionately.

"Yes, yes, I want you! and I will have you, too!" he exclaimed. He sat and looked at her for a moment, sadly embarrassed.

"Sis," he said finally, averting his eyes, "did you ever hear of two persons living together and loving each other dearly, and never being married at all?"

Sis laughed. "Why yes, of course," she said. "My Aunt Mary lived with old Mr. Finch for years and took care of him, and kept his house. But he was so old—I don't suppose they loved each other very much."

"No, I should think not," he answered, smiling. "Love is for the young, like you and me. But don't you think you could live with me and love me dearly and never be married at all?"

She laughed carelessly. "I don't know," she said. "It would be funny. I have often played at being married and keeping house—but we are grown up."

Here she paused, and with a sudden childish impulse, perhaps of mischief, or it might be of unconscious fear, she sprang to the door and threw it wide open.

"Par! Marm! See here," she called out, "Mr. Gardner wants to know if I won't live with him and keep house, and not be married at all!"

"What! What is the girl talkin' about?" said her father, good-naturedly.

"Why," Sis explained, still laughing, "I suppose he wants me to be his housekeeper and take care of him, same as Aunt Mary did of poor Mr. Finch; only he isn't so very old!" with a comical glance into the young man's flushed face.

"He asked me and I didn't know—" She stopped short, frightened, sobered, by something in her father's changed and whitened face.

"Young man," he said slowly, "what do you mean?"

Mr. Gardner felt uncomfortable. He had certainly imagined the business badly. His honest impulses had ruined every thing.

"I said just that, and I meant just that," he answered desperately, "you ought to know, whether she did or not, that I couldn't do more for a girl like her; though I've taken a great fancy to the little thing, and would do well by her and by you too. I think I've treated you handsomely all round, and by Jove, if you weren't a pack of fools you'd think so too!"

Hiram Mears thrust out one huge hand as if to ward off a blow, and then dropped it helplessly at his side. Thrice he opened his mouth to speak, but uttered no sound.

"Sis, daughter, come here!" faltered the mother, and stretched out her arms. Sis sprang into them and nestled to her breast, feeling vaguely that she needed protection from some dreadful danger—she knew not what.

The father found his voice at last. "Do you mean to say, Mr. Gardner, that you haven't made our Sis no bonny fidy offer of marriage—that you don't lay out to make her your wife at all?"

"Upon my honor I really wish I could—but you see it wouldn't do—"

"Why?" The eagle eye of the old man transfixed him. He could not answer. He could not tell this father that the daughter he was so proud of was not a fitting mate for the rich and cultivated man of the world.

"Why?" he repeated. "Hiram Mears's girl is good enough for any man—too good for you, for she comes from a race of honorable men and virtuous women! Go, go!" he thundered, pointing to the door. "Go quick, before I murder ye!"

When the door had closed upon the young man, the three looked into each other's faces for a moment in silence. In the innocence of her heart Sis alone had failed to comprehend the truth. She was the first to speak.

"I'm sure," she said, pouting, "Mr. Gardner was always kind to me, and I think you've treated him real mean, par—"

"Hush, child," said her father sternly. "He would have led you into a life of shame! Love without marriage is not what honest men offer to virtuous women!"

Then the truth dawned slowly upon her. She hid her face in her mother's bosom, and burst into a passion of tears.

"John Griffin would never have treated me so!" she sobbed. "Oh, how wicked I was to think of anybody else, when I loved him all the time! It is a punishment—a punishment!" She sat up suddenly and turned to her father. "Take me back to Vermont!" she cried. "Take me back to John! Let us start to-day—on foot—any way! Oh, how I hate this place and everybody in it! We have been only deceived and abused since we came here! There we were as good as the best, and as happy as kings. I'm sure I hardly knew what tears were in those days. Oh, I want to go to Vermont to John—dear old John—he will be glad to see me, I know!"

Hiram Mears bowed his head in his hands and groaned. It was hard indeed; the most wretched moment he had ever experienced. Just then there was a heavy step in the little entry, a quick rap on the door, which opened at the same instant, and John Griffin himself burst into the room.

"Hullo! What's up?" he exclaimed, stopping still in the middle of the floor, and looking from one to another of the distressed faces before him. "Looks a little as if there'd been a funeral—but I don't miss anybody!"

In a moment Sis was in his arms, and the parents forgot everything else in the pleasure of seeing their old friends again.

"By George!" said John Griffin, a little later, beaming round upon his friends, and mopping his perspiring face with a big bandanna. "By George! didn't I happen down in the very nick of time! If I hadn't come just as I did, Mr. Mears here might have found some other job, and that would have been a pretty go for me! You see I ain't had no experience in keepin' tavern, and the folks up there they run of a notion that nobody but Hiram Mears can keep the Coffee House, anyway. So when I heard that the but-

ter business had gone up—that is that Hiram had gone out o' the butter business as it were—I says to myself, 'Now's my time! I'll take him on the wing' fore he gets settled down to anything else; for, [winking one eye shrewdly] I was sharp enough to know that a man of Hiram Mears' abilities wouldn't be out of business long; so I says, 'I'll take him on the wing.' And here I be, and, wall, (looking at Sis in some embarrassment), I kinder made up my mind 'fore startin' to ask Sis if she wan't 'bout ready to marry me; and if so, why—we'll all occupy the Coffee House together. That's about my idea, if it's agreeable all round."

Still looking at Sis and beginning to feel warmer than ever at what he read in her downcast face, he applied his handkerchief thoroughly once more, and spreading it over his knee, continued, "I reckoned whether no she hadn't seen enough of the world by this time to feel settled in her mind. I know she's young—that's why I didn't exactly speak out 'fore she came away. Give her a little time, says I. But then she knew how I felt—Sis did."

As the head of the family Hiram Mears felt it incumbent upon him to reply to these remarks. "John Griffin," he began, with a tremendous effort at dignity, though his voice trembled with emotion—"you can judge for yourself as to Sis's feelings towards ye," with a wave of the hand in her direction. "I reckon I don't need to say a word; but I do want to thank ye for myself and Lucy Jane, and to say that we'll both do our best for the Coffee House in the future as we did in the past; and we pray God that we may prove worthy of such a friend—and such a son-in-law as John Griffin!"

And Lucy Jane, being a Methodist, wiped her eyes and said, "Amen."—*Saturday Traveller.*

May the Children go Barefoot Without Injury?

This question is every now and again proposed for discussion; and when it is so, says *The London Lancet*, we are compelled to give the same answer. On physiological grounds it is manifestly a sound practice to accustom children to develop the circulatory and muscular system of the lower extremities, precisely as those of the hand are developed, by free use and exposure. It is not supposed to be either necessary or desirable that children should wear gloves for hygienic purposes. When the hands of the little folks are thus decorated, the parental idea is confessedly to give them what is conventionally regarded as a genteel appearance. No one thinks a child ought to be protected from the weather so far as its hands are concerned. On the contrary, it is recognized that the upper extremities should be kept warm by exercise and habitual exposure. Precisely the same view holds good with the lower extremities. Contact with bodies that abstract heat, even more than the earth abstracts it, is an almost constant condition of childhood. In short, it is entirely in deference to fashion and the usages of society that children wear foot coverings. There is much to be said in favor of a more natural practice. The foot is an organ of wondrous perplexity, regarded as a bony and muscular apparatus. It is moreover provided with nerves and blood vessels of special intricacy. The softest and most flexible shoe, to a very great extent, and the boot almost entirely, reduces this organ to the character of a jointed block with little self-movement. Obviously this deduction must detract not only from the efficiency of the foot, but of the organism as a whole. In one respect, too commonly overlooked, we think this reduction of the foot to a jointed block is especially injurious—namely, the limitation of the ordinary capacity, and exceptionally dilatibility, of the vascular system which results. A study of the effects of drawing blood to the extremities by special appliances for medical purposes should place this matter in a clear light. If the blood-vessels of the foot and leg are fully developed, as they can only be when the foot is habitually exposed, the quantity of blood which the lower extremities can be made to receive, and if need be attract for a time, is very considerable. Returning to the immediate subject before us, we can only say that children who are allowed to go barefooted enjoy almost perfect immunity from the danger of "cold" by accidental chilling of the feet, and they are altogether healthier and happier than those who, in obedience to the usages of social life, have the lower extremities permanently inviolated, and so to say, carefully swathed and put away in rigid cases. As regards the poorer classes of children there can be no sort of doubt in the mind of anyone that it is incomparably better they should go barefooted than wear boots that let in the wet, and stockings that are nearly always damp and foul.

A Georgia Romance.

About two years before the war, near a pretty and substantial residence near a prosperous little town, a beautiful young girl about 14, was sleeping in a hammock swung from two stately oaks in a grove. She was a pretty picture of innocence and grace and won the admiration of the passers. In a meadow to the rear, a fat, meek-eyed cow reclined in the shade, ruminating the food she had gathered in the cool of the morning. But what has the cow to do with the sleeping girl is propounded, well, wait and see. Across the road from the house, the girl and cow is a meadow, a branch running through it, and coming up the branch is a boy with a gun. When within one hundred yards of the girl, and about one hundred and fifty from the cow, a bird flew up and sailed in the air toward the cow; the boy fired at the bird, which flew on unhurt, but the cow received a pretty strong dose of shot; she immediately arose in fright, dashed through the grove, caught the girl and hammock on her horns, and rushed with her shrieking victim about the lot. The terrified girl became silent and the crowd of relatives and friends in pursuit thought that she was dead. The wild fury of the cow as she rushed around soon tore the netting

loose, and the girl dropped unconsciously to the ground, unhurt.

She was picked up and taken into the house, and on examination only a few minor bruises were found. The boy, thinking he was the innocent cause of the killing of the young girl, disappeared. All trace of him vanished. It was thought that he had perished by his own hand; but about six years after the war a travel-stained stranger was in the town inquired for persons most of whom had been swept away by the war. After a long search the stranger found an old man on a load of wood, and in conversation with him learned where one of the parties he was in search of lived, a few miles out of town. He went there, made himself known, and turned out to be the boy of the gun. The people he found were father and mother, who had mourned him dead for eight years. The boy had been in South America, got rich, and yearning for the love of the old folks, returned to the desolate home of his childhood, and made his loved ones comfortable. For the first time then, hearing that the girl was unhurt, he called on her, found her pretty, good, and a first-class home woman, he put in with a will, got her heart as his own, and the old folks consented, and has been for the last 12 or 14 years one of the leading men of his section. This is fact.—*American, Ga., Record.*

King Alfonso's Funeral.

For the picturesque and old-fashioned we must go to Spain. The report of King Alfonso's funeral transports the reader to the depths of the middle ages. At the Escurial, we are told, "the procession slowly wound up the hill to the monastery. When the funeral car reached the principal door, it was closed. A voice inside, asked, 'Who wishes to enter?' 'Alfonso XII,' was the reply. The door was thrown open. No one descended to the vault except the Prior, the Minister of Grace and Justice, and the Lord Chamberlain. The coffin was placed on a table in a magnificent black marble vault, in which the kings of Spain lie in huge marble tombs all around. The Lord Chamberlain unlocked the coffin, which was covered with cloth of gold, raised the glass covering the king's face, then, after gazing for perfect silence, knelt down and shouted three times in the dead monarch's ear, 'Senor! Senor! Senor!' He then rose, saying, according to the ritual, 'His Majesty does not answer. Then it is true the king is dead.' He then locked the coffin, handed the keys to the Prior, and taking up his wand of office, broke it in his hand, and flung the pieces at the foot of the table."—*Christian at Work.*

A Magnificent Woman.

I think I never saw but one woman who had vast numbers of clothes and jewels and yet rose superior to them all, and that was Mrs. Kate Chase Sprague, says a writer in the *Chicago News*. She has a grand air of being quite elevated above any extraneous elegance that might be lavished upon her. People would say "How magnificent Mrs. Sprague looks to-day!" But not a gown, not a chain, not an ornament she ever wore attracted attention except inasmuch as it enhanced her beauty. She had magnificent diamonds, but nobody ever heard of them, and scarcely anybody ever noticed them. Her gowns were gorgeous—I know of once when she got 23 in a bunch from Paris—but she clipped those gowns completely. Once, just before she left for Europe, we were in Washington, taking our luncheon at a ladies' restaurant on Pennsylvania avenue. A little one-horse jogger stopped at the door and out popped three ugly, gawky, half-grown girls. After them stepped a tall, graceful woman—I knew Mrs. Sprague in a moment. She walked in with her children and ordered luncheon. The day was warm and everybody had on light, fluffy things. She wore, however, a trained gown of some thin black stuff, and looked like a fine steel engraving in a gallery of chromes. The youth, the roundness, the dimples were gone, but something of "the light of other days" remained. I asked after her the other day, and heard she had organized a gay salon in Paris, was much sought after, and was frightfully in debt—this last her normal condition. I didn't mean to defend or eulogize her. I dare say she was a very ordinary woman intellectually, but she had more the air of a great lady than any woman I ever saw.

Gounod's Youthful Genius.

Once I heard him relate the story of his early difficulties. His mother was poor, but tried to educate her sons. He, Charles, suffered to see her working day and night in order to give him an education, and did not like to disappoint her.

The mother wished him to enter the normal school, but he knew he must be a musician. He told her his plans, and she replied, "Are you serious?"

"Certainly."

"You will not go to the normal school?"

"Never."

"And you intend to go where?"

"To the Conservatory of Music."

"It is my turn to say never."

The poor woman was beside herself because of the gesture of decision made by her son, and continued: "We shall see. Your studies will be doubled. If in drawing lots you are unlucky and become a soldier, I shall not pay for a substitute. Rather a thousand times that my son should a gun than become a Bohemian!"

"Mother," replied the obdurate genius, "I shall double my lessons, because you wish it; but I shall not become a soldier, because I do not wish it."

"What will you do?"

"I shall be exempted because I shall have gained the Grand Prix de Rome."

The mother called to her aid the dean of the college. He sent for young Gounod, and said to him: "Do you wish to be a musician?"

"Yes, sir," dryly responded the culprit.

"Pooh! music is not a profession."

"What! It is not a profession to be a Mozart, Weber, Rossini?"

"To wish is not to be Mozart. At your age, Mozart was celebrated. Show me what you can do. We shall see. There, I

will give you some words, and you will set them to music."

Two hours after Gounod returned with the music.

"Now sing it," said the dean.

"Sing? And the piano?"

"Piano! And for what purpose?"

"To accompany myself. Without the piano you cannot appreciate the harmony."

"I do not care for the harmony. It is the musical sentiment I want."

Gounod sang, and when he had finished turned his head timidly toward his judge. The dean was conquered—tears ran down his cheeks as he took Gounod in his arms and said: "Be a musician, my son; we cannot fight against genius."

The mother was obliged to submit, but in taking her son to his first teacher she said: "Make his life hard; show him all the difficulties."

At the end of the year the teacher said: "Resign yourself, madame, he is gifted. I can teach him no more."

Gounod kept his vow, and won the Prix de Rome just in time to be exempt from conscription.—*New York Mail and Express.*

Our Judges.

The Washington correspondent of the *Chicago Mail* discourses thus about those potent, grave and reverend persons, the Justices of the National Supreme Court: "There are no lean, spare men among them except Bradley, and all of them boast well-fed stomachs and Burgundy complexions. Almost any night a majority of the bench can be found in an F-street car, trundling along to their palatial residences in the West End. Whoever is lucky enough to ride with them can see what would be a sight of a lifetime to any one of millions of American citizens, when you think that out of 60,000,000 people probably not over 2,000,000 have ever visited Washington. Chief Justice Waite and Justices Miller, Matthews and Blatchford will sit ranged along one side of the car, and make it a special amusement for the trip to pass up fares. The Chief Justice and Justice Blatchford always keep an eye on Stanley Matthews as the nickels pass him, and their comments rather reflect upon his integrity in the handling of small amounts of money. The other night I happened to ride up with this bunch of judges, and the incidents of the trip were decidedly interesting. A small boy came into the car. While exercising his right to put in three cents instead of five on account of his infancy, Judge Miller picked him up and pretended to desire to put him into the box as security for the other two cents. Three times the car stopped to take on fat, shiny, old negro women, all of them laden with heavy market baskets filled with linen, and with each of them the Chief Justice and Justice Blatchford competed for the honor of passing up the fare. When the car was full Chief Justice Waite was one of the first to give his seat to a colored girl."

Our Land Monopoly.

France has 5,000,000 thrifty agriculturists, in absolute ownership of their small holdings, while we have only 3,000,000. On the contrary, there are 1,250,000 tenant farmers in "free America," or more by a fourth than in England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales. Illinois is the champion State of "landlordism"—with over 80,000 tenants—and a recent thoughtful writer on this subject says, "Her land law is made altogether for landlords and by landlords, without a single one of its thirty-odd clauses that can be construed as other than a device to secure that the tenant shall bleed to the full nomination of his bond." Moreover, "things are going the same way in Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Kansas and Missouri." Meanwhile, the public domain available for tillage is declared to be "practically exhausted," save the Indian reservations "ever at the mercy of land-thieves." It is time for officials who have influence to rescue such part of our squandered estate as may be properly restored, and to put a stop to further rascality and lavish waste. Neglect of this duty will hasten the evil day which *The Freeman's Journal* avers is "near at hand" when the poor man "must pay his labor for rent."—*N. Y. Tribune.*

Figures of Speech.

It used to be supposed that in poetry, for instance, figures of speech were for mere ornamentation. Now we know that in good poetry they are chiefly used for throwing light. So in colloquial speech; the reason we enjoy them seems to be that they hit out the idea like a flash. There is nothing the mind enjoys, after all, like getting an idea, and getting it quick—what is only giving, in a nutshell, the gist of Herbert Spencer's admirable essay on "Style." A friend was telling me the other day that he had new cooking. He said (he is a small man), "I am afraid of her; she is as big as a bonded warehouse." I saw in the paper lately that somebody expressed himself as being "dry as a covered bridge." And how can we declare the fitness of anything so well as by saying it is "fine as a fiddle."—*Atlantic Monthly.*

Where Is the Difference?

An "Old Farmer" in Maine, writes to the *Maine Farmer*, that he has seen a farmer's wife in the State, working in the hay field, and smoking a "long stemmed clay pipe," and concludes that no American young man could ever kindly endure such a woman for a wife. We wonder how many American farmers thought to ask themselves whether a neatly disposed woman who does not smoke a tobacco pipe, enjoys living with a husband who is stoked to the habit so that he must smoke not only in the field, but in the kitchen and sitting room. Why is it worse for a woman to smoke a pipe, chew tobacco, drink intoxicating liquors, or use profane language, than for a man to do these things?

Sick Headache.—Thousands who have suffered intensely with sick headache say that Hood's Sarsaparilla has completely cured them. One gentleman thus relieved writes: "Hood's Sarsaparilla is worth its weight in gold." Sold by all druggists. 100 doses \$1.

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ONE SLEIGH RIDE.

A sleigh—
A day
Of glorious winter weather;
A girl—
A whirl
Of man and maid together.
A freeze—
A squeeze—
A touching of cold noses;
A crash—
A blush—
And cheeks as red as roses.
A turn—
And homeward they go flying;
A sigh—
A good-by
And then some more good-by'ing
A span—
The lively steed trusted;
A youth,
In truth,
Dismounted quite, and bustled.

A Hot Day in Dakota.

It was 23 degs. below zero yesterday, and the wind was in good working order. A slender tenderfoot was coming down the street on a sort of crippled "dog-trot," his blue and suppurating proboles protruding like a forerunner of frozen misery. Just as he reached the corner he was stopped by Ed. Sloan, the rustler and assistant banner-winner. Sloan saw the stranger long in advance of the meeting, and decided to make an impression on him. He doffed his buffalo coat and cap, threw off his under coat, and at his confidence with the shivering tenderfoot, he appeared in his shirt sleeves, wiping his brow with his handkerchief. The tenderfoot was startled. Just as he was about to pass, the sweltering Sloan exclaimed: "Good morning, stranger; you look sort of feeble. Not sick, I hope?" "Good morning, sir," falteringly replied the dumfounded stranger, his teeth chattering like a trip-hammer. "No, sir, I am not sick; I never enjoyed better health in my life."

He edged in close to the building to escape the wind, and looked at Sloan with a half-pitying glance of inquiry, and it was plain to be seen that he thought he had met a lunatic or crank of the most virulent type. "But you look cold!" ejaculated the honest Sloan, as he rubbed some more Cayenne pepper and kerosene on his face to give it the appearance of heat and perspiration. "Here, take some of this medicine; it will help you. You've got the worst case of chills I ever saw."

The stranger looked wild. The wind whistled round the corner with a vicious howl, and the stranger rubbed the end of his nose to keep up the circulation. "Well, I must say that you are the most wonderful character I ever met," said the tenderfoot. "Don't you think you will freeze over here a day like this in your shirt sleeves?" "Freeze? Freeze?" yelled Sloan. "Why man, I tell you you're sick! Why this is a mild, balmy atmosphere. This is just the kind of a day to plant your pumpkin seeds. I've just been out hoeing my Early Rose potatoes, and I find that the blasted bugs have got onto the vines. When I let's go in and take a lemonade to cool us off."

"No, excuse me; I guess I'll go back to the hotel," replied the tourist; but just as he was about to leave Farmer Wallace approached, puffing and perspiring, carrying his coat on one arm and a sheaf of wheat on the other.

"Well, Sloan," said the farmer, "little warm to-day."

"Yes, how are you getting along with your work?"

"Very well, indeed. I left the boys plowing on the northwest quarter, and the neighbor's girls have come over to a plowing on the creek."

By this time the stranger looked faint and weak.

"S'y, farmer," said Sloan, pointing at the bewildered stranger, "don't you think that this gentleman is in a pretty bad shape? I tell you he ought to see a doctor."

"Why, my friend, what's the matter with you?" asked the farmer in a voice that went echoing in the frosty air like the gust of a brass band. "You look cold and kind of blue! Come out for your health, I suppose!"

As the stranger was about to speak, Captain Cal came upon the scene, dressed in a tidy blue ball uniform, and swinging a bat in his hands. "Come on! Come on! All aboard for the ball grounds!" shouted the captain, as he dashed by with a gleeful expression in his sparkling eyes and a ruddy glow on his cheeks.

"Will you go out to see the game of ball, stranger?" mildly asked Mr. Sloan. "You can walk down with—"

But he was gone. He rushed back to the hotel, went to his room, thawed out over a steam radiator, and remained in searing gaze upon the first roll, rollicking blizzard of the season until the east-bound train arrived. He paid his bill by the bell-boy route, refusing to speak to any one until he was safely seated in the Pullman sleeper. As the train moved out he asked the conductor if he would put on a little extra speed, as he wanted to see his wife and children once more before he died.—Bismarck Tribune.

Hard to Suit.

Ben: Perley Poore tells the following in the American Cultivator:

Gen. Sherman's epistolary troubles just now recall to me a story which was told of his attempt to control the press, soon after he had taken possession of Savannah. Among those attached to his army was a well known Boston reporter, who was called Tom Miles, although that was not his real name. Miles, on entering Savannah, found a vacated printing office. There were types and presses and all the paraphernalia essential to business, with a form on the press, which the printer had left in his digit, and Miles, taking out the editorial and other offensive matter, filled its column with healthy Union sentiment, with the aid of one or two of the craft whom he had discovered in the army. His leader was a rich specimen of crowing over the victory, in which he extolled Gen. Sherman as the greatest hero since Alexander, and his army the

finest and best disciplined that the world ever saw. With this grand flourish of trumpets the first number was issued, and Miles lay back in his editorial chair, contemplating his work with the belief that he had achieved the next triumph to Sherman's, and wondering what the conqueror would say when he saw the praises he had heaped upon him. The next morning, as the general and his staff were about taking breakfast, a paper was handed to him—the Savannah Republican, I think—and he commenced to read the leader which was so lavish in his praise.

"Look here!" said he, red and furious. "What the d— does this mean? Who knows anything about this paper?"

His orderly, who had known something about its preparation, explained to him that it was the work of one of the literary gentlemen who had followed the expedition.

"Well," said the general, "go down to the office and tell him to discontinue his paper or I'll put him under guard. I won't have such cursed stuff printed about me when I can prevent it. Abuse is bad enough, but this is a deuced silly worse."

Down went the orderly, and the confusion of poor Miles was overwhelming when he got the squelcher from the general commanding.

"Why, it was all praise," said he. "No matter for that. If it had been the other way it would have been treated just the same."

So Miles moved a compromise—I hardly know what—and urged the official to express his regrets and beg the removal of the injunction, and soon the officer came back to inform him that permission was granted him to run his paper, on condition that he should never mention the general's name again. This was agreed to, and the paper appeared. After a day or two an aide came down one morning with an order from Gen. Sherman for publication. Miles glanced over it and handed it back.

"It can't go in, sir," said he.

"Why not?" asked the astounded messenger, who was a stranger.

"Because it has Sherman's name to it," was the reply.

"That's the reason why it must go in," urged the aide.

"And that's the reason why it shan't," He stopped his paper for praising him, and I promised him that his name should never appear in my columns again, and hanged me if it shan't."

Miles stood resolute, and the officer returned for orders, expecting the ordering out of a file of men and an arrest, but was astonished to see the general burst into the heartiest laugh and hear him confess that the printer had the best of it. The messenger was sent back with a conciliatory note, and there was no more trouble.

Slandering Words.

A lady visited Philip Neri on one occasion, accusing herself of being a slanderer.

"Do you frequently fall into this fault?" he inquired.

"Yes, very often," replied the penitent.

"My dear child," said Philip, "your fault is great, but the mercy of God is greater; I now bid thee do as follows: Go to the nearest market and purchase a chicken just killed and still covered with feathers. Then walk to a certain distance, plucking the bird as you go. Your walk finished return to me."

The woman did as directed and returned, anxious to know the meaning of so singular an injunction.

"You have been very faithful to the first part of my orders," said Philip. "Now do the second part, and you will be cured: Retrace your steps, pass through all the places you have traversed, and gather up, one by one, all the feathers you have scattered."

"But," said the woman, "I scattered the feathers carelessly away, and the wind carried them in all directions."

"Well, my child," replied Philip, "so it is with your words of slander; like the feathers which the wind has scattered, they have been wafted in many directions. Call them back now if you can. Go and sin no more."

A Silent Sermon.

A few months ago a young woman living in Lynn, Mass., whose head had been turned by flatteries, left her father's house and entered on the downward path. The efforts that were made to reclaim her were futile, and at length she was lost sight of. One day last week her remains arrived at Lynn for burial. She had run the course and had suffered the penalty of her errors. The funeral was largely attended by the dead girl's former friends, with whom she had been a favorite, as well as by the sympathetic acquaintances of her parents. The occasion was one that suggested many topics for prayer and exhortation; but more powerful than any of the words spoken there was the sight witnessed by the multitude when they moved past the casket. By the side of the dead body were heaped the jewels and finery which had been hers in life, and which had been the price of her honor. Returned to her parents by her body by her former companions, they were buried with her, a mute testimonial of the vanity which turned one human brain and of the sternness of broken-hearted parents who could make no other disposition of property won at such a sacrifice.

Divorce in Burmah.

Divorce is quite common in Burmah, and very simple. The man and wife, having agreed to a separation, light each a candle, and seating themselves, watch to see which will first burn out. The owner of the candle which lasts longest corresponds to the person who, in our civilization, "obtains the decree." The husband and the wife, and all that the couple have owned, become the property of the one whose candle has shown the superior endurance, and the other goes forth with only the clothing he or she may have on at the time. The need that a Burman grocer has to be utterly trustworthy in the matter of candles will be understood. It would be ruin to him to sell a poor article to ladies or gentlemen contemplating divorce.

"Very Hungry."

There are illustrations in every nation of "peddler's morality," from which truth appears to be even farther out of reach than "at the bottom of a well." Everywhere, as the old play has it,

"Money and men a united falsehood show, Men make false money—money makes men so."

Sharp and unscrupulous tradesmen are found among the meek-faced Chinamen, as well as among "Yankees." A correspondent writes this graphic example:

He was sitting with some brother-officers of the United States ship Dash, in front of the English hotel in Batavia, Java, and was approached by a forlorn looking Chinaman, who had a sword cane in his hand.

"Want buy?" said he, bowing profoundly to the group. The others paid no attention to him, but I, being somewhat inexperienced in the ways of the "childlike and bland," took pity on him and asked his price.

"Six dollars," said he.

"Six dollars?" I exclaimed. "That's too much."

"Velly fine sword cane. Chinaman velly hungry," whined he, plaintively. "Melican help hungry man alee time. Five dollars, sah?"

"No," said I. "Five dollars is too much."

"Four dollar; little, little four dollar," persisted the miserable looking object.

Still I was firm in my belief that I could buy a sword cane for much less, if I really needed one, and declared that I would not pay four dollars.

"Tee dollar? Two dollar? One dollar?" groaned the beggar.

Then, as I shook my head in obedience to a stealthy wink from the lieutenant, sitting near and watching the progress of the trade, the fellow began to cry, "No catchee chow-chow, tee day! Velly hungry! Die! No catchee chow-chow, die! Fifty cent!"

I relented, and agreed to buy it for fifty cents. But an investigation of my purse showed nothing but a ten-dollar gold piece.

"I can't take it after all," said I, regretfully.

Imagine my amazement when, after one keen glance at my "eagle," the Chinaman dived down his sleeves and brought out a double handful of silver, counted nine dollars and fifty cents out of the pile, took my gold piece, handed me the cane, and turned away with a placid smile and bow, amid the shouts and laughter of my companions!

The lieutenant then offered me his arm and took me to a neighboring shop, where was a shelf full of sword canes just like mine, for twenty-five cents apiece!

Another gentleman who purchased something of a custome merchant of the "Flowery Kingdom" illustrates the kind of imposition to which a foreign buyer who is "green" is likely to be subjected. After besting the Chinaman down from two dollars and a half to ninety cents he took the article, and said, "Now, John, tell me how much profit you make on that?"

"Ninety cents."

"Why, how can that be, John?"

"Me steal um," was the reply of the imperturbable Chinaman,—and no doubt for once he told the truth.

VARIETIES.

MONKEYING WITH THE THERMOMETER.—Over in the Treasury a story is told at the expense of a high official. The air in the room was rather chilly, but the clerks were found busily at work in their light office coats. They had warmed the bulb of the thermometer up to 75, and awaited developments. The official remarked that it was cold, and shivered and looked uneasily about the room. A clerk leisurely glanced at the thermometer, and said it was very comfortable. The official looked, and saw, and wondered.

"I think I must have a chill," he said, but he went to his desk.

Pretty soon the clerk in front of him deliberately pulled off his coat and resumed work.

"I am sure I must have a chill," again remarked the official, but every clerk had his nose down to business, and hadn't time to answer.

"Good heavens," said another in a loud aside, pulling off his coat.

The official, still muffled in his overcoat and shivering, went over again and looked at the thermometer. A clerk had in the meantime applied the lighted end of a cigar to the bulb, and the mercury had jumped to 80.

"Dear me!" said the official, "I'm afraid I am going to be sick." After a little he pulled on his gloves and started for home, took quinine and whiskey, and went to bed. When he returned to the office next day the story met him in the corridor. He says it is all right, he is well, and the fellows who played it on him are sneezing their heads off.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

The most unsophisticated of brides was one who snuggled up against her rural husband as they stood in the visitors balcony of the Stock Exchange the other afternoon. Her garb as well as her manner betrayed her homely condition, and she soon became an object of regard to the mob of brokers on the floor below. Their din and commotion of business were no more probably than she had felt. By the side of the dead body were heaped the jewels and finery which had been hers in life, and which had been the price of her honor.

Returned to her parents by her body by her former companions, they were buried with her, a mute testimonial of the vanity which turned one human brain and of the sternness of broken-hearted parents who could make no other disposition of property won at such a sacrifice.

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WHAT WARNER'S SAFE CURE CURES AND WHY.

Congestion of the Kidneys, Back Ache, Inflammation of the Kidneys, Bladder and Urinary Organs. Catarrh of the Bladder, Gravel, Stone Dropsy, Enlarged Prostate Gland, Impotency or General Debility, Bright's Disease.

WHY? Because it is the only remedy known that has power to expel the uric acid and urea, of which there are some 500 grains secreted each day as the result of muscular action, and sufficient if retained in the blood, to kill six men. It is the direct cause of all the above diseases, as well as of Heart Disease, Rheumatism, Apoplexy, Paralysis, Insanity and Death.

This great specific relieves the kidneys of too much blood, frees them from all irritants, restores them to healthy action by its certain and soothing power.

IT CURES ALSO Jaundice, Enlargement of the Liver, Abscess and Catarrh of the Bile Ducts, Biliousness, Headache, Furred Tongue, Sleeplessness, Langour, Debility, Constipation, Gall Stones, and every unpleasant symptom which results from liver complaint.

WHY? Because it has a specific and positive action on the liver as on the kidneys, increasing the secretion and flow of bile, regulates its elaborating function, removes unhealthy formations and, in a word, restores it to natural activity, without which health is an impossibility.

IT CURES ALSO Female Complaints, Leucorrhoea, Displacements, Enlargements, Ulcerations, Painful Menstruation, makes Pregnancy safe, prevents Convulsions and Child Bed Fever and aids nature by restoring functional activity.

WHY? All these troubles, as is well known by every physician of education, arise from congestion and impaired kidney action, causing stagnation of the blood vessels and breaking down, and this is the beginning and the direct cause of all the ailments from which women suffer, and must as surely follow as night does the day.

WHY Warner's Safe Cure is acknowledged by thousands of our best medical men to be the only true blood purifier, is because it acts on scientific principles, striking at the very root of the disorder by its action on the kidneys and liver. For, if these organs were kept in health all the morbid waste matter so deadly poisonous if retained in the body, is passed out.

On the contrary, if they are deranged, the acids are taken up by the blood, decomposing it and carrying death to the most remote part of the body.

WHY 98 per cent of all diseases which afflict humanity, arise from impaired kidneys, is shown by medical authorities. Warner's Safe Cure, by its direct action, positively restores them to health and full working capacity, nature curing all the above diseases herself when the cause is removed, and we guarantee that Warner's Safe Cure is a positive preventive if taken in time.

As you value health take it to avoid sickness, as it will at all times and under all circumstances keep all the vital functions up to par.

We also guarantee a Cure and beneficial effect for each of the foregoing diseases, also that every case of Kidney and Liver trouble can be cured where degeneration has Not taken place, and even then Benefit Will Surely be Derived. In every instance it has established its claim.

AS A BLOOD PURIFIER, particularly in the Spring, it is unequalled, for you cannot have pure blood when the kidneys or liver are out of order.

Look to your condition at once. Do not postpone treatment for a day or an hour. The doctors cannot compare records with us. Give yourself thorough constitutional treatment with Warner's Safe Cure, and there are yet many years of life and health assured you!

"What curious customs they have over on the other side!" remarked Mrs. Homesque; "it says here that the German Emperor has opened the Prussian Diet with a speech. In this country, you know, the speech-making always comes after the eating."

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE GREAT WABASH ROUTE. The Shortest & Most Direct Route from DETROIT to Adrian, Auburn, Fort Wayne, Peru, Indianapolis, Louisville and points south; Lafayette, Danville, Decatur, Springfield, St. Louis, Kansas City, and points west and southwest.

CHICAGO and points in the Northwest. Two solid trains daily between Detroit and Chicago, Detroit and Indianapolis, Detroit and St. Louis.

California Excursion Bureau. A full line of Round Trip Tickets to all land points in Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas and Texas. A. F. WOLFSCHLAGER, Ticket Agent, Detroit.

IF A MAN IS HUNGRY within an hour, more or less, after a meal, he is a dyspeptic. It shows his stomach is not able to dispose of what he has eaten. But to eat and thus impose more work is an absurdity. Take DR. JONES' RED CLOVER TONIC, which cures Dyspepsia and All Stomach, Liver, Kidney and Bladder troubles. It is a perfect tonic, appetizer, blood purifier, a sure cure for ague and malaria diseases. Price, Fifty Cents.

WHEN YOU ARE GOING TO PAINT. Be sure to order your White Lead, Ochre, or Mixed Paints put up in STILES & CO'S Canister Iron Half Bushel and Stale Buckets. When you get the paint to the top and you will have a correct measure and good bucket. Much more useful than any other kind of paint.

STILES & CO., MANUFACTURERS, 1590 Eastern Ave. Cincinnati, O. Cut this out.

JUST ISSUED. Letters From GOLDEN LATITUDES. A large, finely-illustrated pamphlet, descriptive of the Northwest, statistics compiled from official sources. Sent free on application to name of C. H. WARREN, G. P. A., ST. PAUL, MINN. d-13-12

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Brewster's Patent Reel. Your lines are where you put them—not under honest. The reel is made in 8 days, one dealer sold 6 doz. in 15 days. Sample worth more than all for 10 cts. G. E. BREWSTER, Holly, Mich. d-12-131

A BIC OFFER.—To introduce them we will give away FREE OF CHARGE. Low Selling Operating Washing Machines. If you want one send us your name, address and express office at once. The National Co., 23 Day St., New York. a-18-6m

THE MAN. 5 Ton Wagon. Iron Tires, Steel Springs, Iron Axles, and all the latest improvements. \$30 and over. JONES has the freight for free. Price list sent on request. Binghamton, N.Y. d-12-6-13

MAKING 25 A FAMILY SCALES. Entirely new in principle. Each one weighs 2 lbs. We save every family and will pay. Rapid sales in price old agents. FOSHNER & McMINN, Cincinnati, Ohio.

THREE PECULIARITIES. Hood's Sarsaparilla, the great blood purifier and regulating medicine, is characterized by three peculiarities, namely:

1st: The combination of the various remedial agents used.

2d: The proportion in which the roots, herbs, barks, etc., are mixed.

3d: The process by which the active medicinal properties are secured.

The result is a medicine of unusual strength and curative power, which effects cures heretofore unequalled. These peculiarities belong exclusively to Hood's Sarsaparilla, and are unknown to others.

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MORTGAGE SALE.—Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made and executed on the first day of October, A. D. 1877, by Alfred B. Gulliver and Sophia A. Gulliver his wife, of Dearborn, Wayne County, Michigan, to the Michigan Mutual Life Insurance Company, of Detroit, Michigan, in said State and County, which mortgage was recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for Wayne County, Michigan, on the first day of October, A. D. 1873, in book 88 of mortgages on page 284. And whereas, the amount claimed to be due on said mortgage, as of the date of this notice, is the sum of nine thousand six hundred and eight dollars and forty-two cents (\$9,684.42), principal and interest.

And whereas, no suit or proceeding at law or in equity has been instituted to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or to enforce the same, therefore, notice is hereby given that by virtue of the power contained in said mortgage, and in pursuance of the statute in such case made and provided, the said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the premises thereon described, at public auction to the highest bidder, at the eastern front door of the City Hall of the City of Detroit (that being the place at which the Circuit Court for the County of Wayne holds the twenty-eighth day of April, A. D. 1886, at twelve o'clock noon of said day, and the premises covered by said mortgage are described as follows, to wit: All that certain lot or parcel of land situated in the County of Wayne and State of Michigan, being the east half of the southwest quarter of section twenty (20) of township twenty-two (22) of range thirty-six (36) of the third principal meridian, and being the same as described in deed recorded in the Register of Deeds office for said County in book fifty-six (56) of deeds, page 501, together with the hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging or in anywise appertaining.

THE MICHIGAN MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, Mortgagee. HENRY A. HAIGH, Attorney for Mortgagee. Detroit, Michigan, February 1st, A. D. 1886.

MORTGAGE SALE.—Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made and delivered by Oliver H. P. Green and Louise J. Green to Laura B. Green, dated February 9, 1878, for the County of Wayne, in book 119 of mortgages on page 284. And whereas, the amount claimed to be due on said mortgage, as of the date of this notice, is the sum of nine thousand six hundred and eight dollars and forty-two cents (\$9,684.42), principal and interest.

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